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FBIS-EAS-91-082 CONTENTS *29 April 1991*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- Interparliamentary Conference Opens in Pyongyang 1
  - Delegations Arrive *[KCNA]* 1
  - KCNA Reports First-Day Events 1
- 'Full Text' of Kim Il-song Speech *[KCNA]* 2
  - South Korean Delegate on Kim Speech *[YONHAP]* 4
  - Plenary Session Begins 29 Apr *[KCNA]* 5
  - North, South Korean Delegates Meet *[KCNA]* 5
  - Kim Yong-nam Meets German Delegates *[KCNA]* 5

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

- Minesweepers Set Out for Persian Gulf *[KYODO]* 6
  - Kaifu Briefs House on Minesweepers *[Tokyo TV]* 6
- 'Regrets' Over U.S. Construction Dispute *[KYODO]* 6
- Hashimoto Visits U.S.; G-7 Countries Meet 7
  - Hashimoto: U.S. Understands Policies *[KYODO]* 7
  - Hashimoto on Worry Over 'Twin Risks' *[KYODO]* 7
  - 'Sources' on Beginning of G-7 Talks *[KYODO]* 8
  - G-7 Statement Issued *[KYODO]* 8
  - Interest Rate Dispute Ends in Draw *[KYODO]* 9
- Prime Minister Kaifu Embarks on ASEAN Trip *[KYODO]* 9
- Nakayama Leaves for New Zealand, Australia *[KYODO]* 10
- Nakasone To Meet Jiang Zeming, Li Peng *[KYODO]* 10
- Watanabe Departs for Europe, Soviet Union *[KYODO]* 10
- Defense Agency Chief Leaves for Canada, U.S. *[KYODO]* 11

North Korea

- Commentary Given on Pyongyang IPU Meeting *[Pyongyang Radio]* 11
- Daily Criticizes ROK-Soviet Summit Talks *[KCNA]* 12
- Journalist Chairman on South's Defense Minister *[KCNA]* 13
- Pyongyang Mass Meeting Welcomes South Crewmen *[KCNA]* 14
- U.S. Military Exercises in South Reported 14
  - U.S. 23 Apr 'Provocative' Action *[KCNA]* 14
  - 25 Apr U.S. Aerial Exercise *[KCNA]* 14
- Report on SPA's Second Day Afternoon Session *[Pyongyang Radio]* 15
- People's Delegations Visit Military Units *[KCNA]* 21
- Book on Kim Il-song Printed in Other Languages *[KCNA]* 21
- Yongsong Machine 'Bureau' Produces Equipment *[KCNA]* 21
- KCNA Review of 27 Apr Pyongyang Press 21
- KCNA Review of 29 Apr NODONG SINMUN 22

South Korea

- Seoul To Apply for Unilateral UN Entry in Aug *[YONHAP]* 23
- North Official Hints at Resumption of Talks *[YONHAP]* 23

IPU Delegation Departs for North Via Panmunjom *[YONHAP]* 24
Delegates' Activities Reported *[YONHAP]* 25
Delegates Hold 'Heated Debate' *[YONHAP]* 25
Joint Youth Soccer Team Timetable Finalized *[YONHAP]* 26
Joint Talks on Hosting Table Tennis Planned *[YONHAP]* 26
Gorbachev's Opinion of Summit Talks Viewed *[YONHAP]* 26
Seoul's 'Independency' in Foreign Policy Viewed *[THE KOREA TIMES 28 Apr]* 27
Reaction to Student Demonstrator Death Reported 28
Minister of Home Affairs Resigns *[Seoul Radio]* 28
NDU Leader Asks Cabinet Dismissal *[YONHAP]* 28
Parties To Investigate Death *[YONHAP]* 29
Four Riot Policemen Arrested *[THE KOREA HERALD 28 Apr]* 29
Prime Minister Issues Apology *[YONHAP]* 30
Police To Disperse Demonstrators *[YONHAP]* 30
Use of Imported Ethnic Korean Labor Planned *[YONHAP]* 31
Awareness of Occupational Risks Said Increased *[THE KOREA HERALD 27 Apr]* 31

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

Japan's Prime Minister Kaifu Arrives on 29 Apr *[KYODO]* 33
Meets Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah *[KYODO]* 33

Malaysia

Japan's Kaifu Arrives for Three-Day Visit *[BERNAMA]* 34
Holds Discussion With Mahathir *[Kuala Lumpur Radio]* 34
Assures No 'Military Revival' *[AFP]* 34
Responds to Paper's Questions *[KYODO]* 35
Says Relations Cordial; Departs *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 35
Commentary on Kaifu's Visit *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 36
Pact With Australia Despite 'Strained' Ties *[Kuala Lumpur Radio]* 36

Singapore

Communications Accord Signed With Indonesia *[THE STRAITS TIMES 25 Apr]* 36

Cambodia

'Warring Factions' Accept Cease-Fire Call *[AFP]* 37
Tripartite Resistance Statement *[Radio VODK]* 37
Hun Sen: Pol Pot Main Barrier to Lasting Peace *[KYODO]* 38
Hun Sen Reaffirms Support for Cease-Fire *[Bangkok THE NATION 28 Apr]* 39
Son Sann Asks Humanitarian Aid Through SNC *[Radio VOK]* 39
Phnom Penh Gives Refugee Aid to Vietnamese Troops *[Radio VOK]* 39
Resistance To Fight as Long as Vietnamese Remain *[Radio VOK]* 40

Laos

Radio Hails Call for Cambodian Cease-Fire *[Vientiane Radio]* 40

Philippines

Further Reportage on U.S. Bases Negotiations 41
U.S Warned on Removal of Forces *[Quezon City Radio]* 41
Activist Criticizes 'Draft' Treaty *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 27 Apr]* 41
Publication of 'Draft Treaty' Urged *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 28 Apr]* 42
Abrogation of Defense Treaty Viewed *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 29 Apr]* 43

Manglapus Not To Appeal Senate Bases Decision *[Quezon City Radio]* 44
Orbos on U.S. Bases; Japanese Ships in Gulf *[MANILA BULLETIN 28 Apr]* 44
Indian President Arrives for Four-Day Visit *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 29 Apr]* 45
Ramos Sworn In to LDP; Makes Statement *[Manila Radio]* 45
    Seeks Presidential Nomination *[THE CHRONICLE 29 Apr]* 45
    Ramos, Mitra Battle for Support *[THE CHRONICLE 29 Apr]* 46
    Vows Continued Support for Aquino *[MANILA BULLETIN 26 Apr]* 47
    Replacement by De Villa Planned *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 28 Apr]* 47
    Aquino Confirms Ramos Plans *[Manila Radio]* 48
    Senator Opposes De Villa Appointment *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 29 Apr]* 48
Presidential Aspirant Santiago Hurt in Car Crash *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 29 Apr]* 49
NDF Broadcast Urges Continued Struggle *[MANILA BULLETIN 26 Apr]* 49
Military To Launch Operations Against NPA *[Quezon City Radio]* 49

Thailand

Reportage on Trade Dispute With United States 50
    Anan Seeks Negotiations *[BANGKOK POST 27 Apr]* 50
    Anan on U.S. 'Retaliation' *[Bangkok TV]* 50
    Foreign Minister on Trade Action *[Bangkok Radio]* 50
    Asa Urges 'Reasonableness' on Patents *[BANGKOK POST 28 Apr]* 51
    Commerce Minister on Retaliation *[BANGKOK POST 29 Apr]* 51
    Patent Bill Committee Refuses To Bend *[THE NATION 28 Apr]* 52
    Drug Patent Law Change Urged *[NAEO NA 29 Apr]* 52
    Exporters Told Not To 'Panic' *[THE NATION 29 Apr]* 53
    U.S. 'Retributions' Criticized *[BAN MUANG 27 Apr]* 53
Anan Meets Cambodian Resistance Leaders *[Bangkok Radio]* 54
Reportage on Visit of Cambodian Leader Hun Sen 54
    Arrives 27 Apr *[AFP]* 54
    Meets With Army Commander *[Bangkok Radio]* 54
    Received by Prime Minister *[Bangkok Radio]* 55
    Interviewed on Anan Meeting *[THE NATION 29 Apr]* 55
    Received by Asa Sarasin *[Bangkok Radio]* 56
Ministry Rejects SRV Offer To Cut Arms Flow *[BANGKOK POST 28 Apr]* 56

Vietnam

U.S. To Provide $1 Million in Humanitarian Aid *[Hanoi Radio]* 56
    VNA Reports First Aid Since War *[VNA]* 56
U.S. Senate Testimony on Normalization Cited *[Hanoi Radio]* 56
Foreign Ministry Urges Cambodia Cease-Fire *[Hanoi Radio]* 57
Radio Calls For Efforts To Implement Cease-Fire *[Hanoi Radio]* 57
Alliance Francaise To Open Office in Hanoi *[VNA]* 58

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Defense Ties With Indonesia Said 'Recovered' *[Melbourne International]* 59
Evans Backs Decision Regarding Envoy to Ireland *[Melbourne International]* 59

New Zealand

French Prime Minister Rocard Arrives for Visit *[AFP]* 60
    Admits Rainbow Warrior Error *[AFP]* 60
    Warns Cairns Group on Pressure *[AFP]* 61
    Talks With Japan's Nakayama *[KYODO]* 61

Interparliamentary Conference Opens in Pyongyang

Delegations Arrive

SK2904053691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0516 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Names of delegation leaders as received]

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—Delegations and delegates flew to Pyongyang Sunday to participate in the 85th Interparliamentary Conference.

They were a Malaysian National Assembly group delegation led by President of the Senate Dato' Chan Choong Tak, a Syrian National Assembly group delegation led by President of the People's Council Abdul Kader Kaddoura, an Iraqi National Assembly group delegation led by Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Ghanim Aziz Khaduri, a Namibian National Assembly group delegation led by Speaker of the National Assembly M.P. Tjitendero, an Algerian National Assembly group delegation led by President of the National People's Assembly Abdelaziz Belkhadem, a Bolivian National Assembly group delegation led by President of the Senate Gonzalo Valda, a Jamaican National Assembly group delegation led by President of the Senate Howard Cooke, a Chilean National Assembly group delegation led by First Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies Carlos Dupre, a representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations Angela Knippenberg, and Sri Lankan, Iranian, Israeli, Japanese, Austrian, Italian, San Marino, Tanzanian and Guatemalan parliamentary group delegations and delegates, a delegate of the Council of Europe and a delegate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

KCNA Reports First-Day Events

SK2904111891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—The 85th conference of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) opened at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on April 29.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, attended the opening session of the conference.

The emblem of the 85th Interparliamentary Conference and the letters "85th Interparliamentary Conference in Pyongyang, April 29- May 4, 1991" were hung on the background of the platform.

The national flag of the DPRK and the flag of the Interparliamentary Union were seen on the platform.

The conference is attended by delegations and delegates from 86 countries and regions and from some ten international organizations.

Present there was the delegation of the parliamentary group of the DPRK headed by Chong Chun-ki, vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK.

The opening session was attended by diplomatic envoys of different countries in Pyongyang.

Present as honorary guests were a vice-president of the DPRK, the premier, vice-premiers and ministers of the Administration Council of the DPRK.

The chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan was also on hand as honorary guest.

Deputies to the SPA, leading officials of the central organs and officials concerned participated in the session as observers.

When President Kim Il-song appeared on the platform at 10:00 the band struck up the welcome music and the entire participants burst into enthusiastic cheers.

The platform was also taken by Daouda Sow, president of the Council, and Pierre Cornillon, secretary general, of the IPU, members of the Executive Committee of the IPU, and the representative of the secretary-general of the United Nations, Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly and chairman of parliamentary group of the DPRK, and Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairwoman of the SPA and vice-chairwoman of the parliamentary group.

Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the parliamentary group of the DPRK, presided over the opening of the conference.

On behalf of the parliamentary group of the DPRK, he warmly welcomed the delegates to the 85th Interparliamentary Conference and their companions, delegates of the international organisations and honorary guests.

Pointing out that the demands for removing the factors of war and defending independence, peace and equality are growing ever higher in many areas of the world, he expressed the expectation that the Pyongyang conference would be a meaningful meeting of the parliamentarians who are striving to this end and, at the same time, would be a fine occasion in further deepening understanding and friendship of foreign friends for our country and people.

President Kim Il-song delivered a speech "For a Free and Peaceful New World" at the opening session of the conference.

Then, the floor was taken by Daouda Sow, president of the Council of the Interparlimentary Union.

He said:

It is both an honor and a pleasure to greet the parliamentary delegations that have come from all parts of the world to Pyongyang to take part in the 85th Interparliamentary Conference. I extend warmest thanks on their behalf to the Supreme People's Assembly, and the authorities and citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for their cordial welcome and the outstanding facilities placed at our disposal.

I would also like to extend our greetings to his excellency the president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, who has shown particular interest in our Conference which he is honouring with his presence today.

In the coming days the 85th Conference will be addressing subjects that reflect the extreme diversity of the world community's concerns. Some of them, such as disarmament, have to do with relations between states. Others, such as the protection of women and children, concern everyday life in our respective societies.

Referring to the importance and urgency of disarmament, he noted:

The inevitable corollary of overarming is underdevelopment, a factor of instability and insecurity.

He pointed also to a total ban on chemical weapons and halting the nuclear arms race.

He further said:

The agenda of our conference will also involve us in a discusssion of how to end the violence of which too many women and children are victims.

What is certain is that it is for the state, and thus for parliamentarians, to pass civil and penal laws to protect the victims of violence and to supply the necessary support for the institutions and associations that provide them with assistance and care.

Faithful to its vocation and tradition, the Union, as always, will continue to debate—and frequently state its position—on many topical issues including, most particularly, the acute crises threatening international security.

Our Korean hosts have done everything imaginable to ensure the best possible conditions for our work.

The representative of the secretary-general of the United Nations read out a message of the secretary-general to the Interparliamentary Union's 85th conference.

In the message the secretary-general of the United Nations said:

I take great pleasure in extending my warmest greetings to all participants in the Interparliamentary Union's 85th conference being held in Pyongyang. Given the pace and character of recent events, the IPU's initiative to discuss the need to halt the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, to ensure the security of all states and to strengthen confidence-building measures, is most timely.

One of the pressing issues for all of us is the need to forestall proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

We must redouble efforts to strengthen the NPT [Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty] regime. We should also work for an early conclusion of a chemical weapons convention and for universal adherence to it.

Another area of concern is the question of arms transfers. A study on arms transfers which is currently underway under my auspices is examining the issue in all its aspects with a view to making recommendations for appropriate action at the international level.

At the heart of relations between states lies the basic issue of confidence and trust. This is why confidence-and-security-building measures are such an important stepping-stone towards peaceful relations.

Peace requires concerted efforts on the part of governments, as well as of individuals in positions of influence. I do not need to labour the importance of your efforts as representatives of the people who have elected you, whether in the area of arms limitation and disarmament, or in the betterment of economic and social conditions in the world. I urge you to continue your search for constructive methods of cooperation in the cause of peace for all.

'Full Text' of Kim Il-song Speech

SK2904050891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, delivered a speech "For a Free and Peaceful New World" at the 85th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union [IPU] which opened here today.

Follows the full text of the speech: Esteemed Mr. President of the Council of the Interparliamentary Union, honourable delegates,

The opening of the 85th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union in Pyongyang, the capital of our country, today gives the Korean people a great pleasure.

Allow me to bid a hearty welcome to the parliamentary delegates from many countries, to the delegates from international organizations and to all the other guests from foreign countries.

This conference will be an important opportunity to deepen mutual understanding among the national assemblies of various countries, develop cooperation among them and strengthen friendship and solidarity between the Korean people and other peoples throughout the world.

I hope that, through your sincere efforts, the 85th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union will discuss the items on the agenda successfully and achieve excellent results.

Honourable delegates,

The national assembly of each country, as its highest legislative body, has a mission and responsibility to realize democratic government. Democracy must be not only the basic ideal of state administration for championing people's right to independence, but also a common ideal of world politics for ensuring equality and cooperation among countries. The foreign policy of a state is the extension of its domestic policy. Therefore, making individual countries democratic is closely connected with the undertaking to make the international community democratic. The members of national assemblies who are working devotedly for the development of democratic government in their own countries should also make an active contribution to making world politics democratic, and thus fulfill their responsibilities and role as the statesmen of the present age.

The Interparliamentary Union which was founded more than a century ago in order to realize the noble aim of peace and cooperation has contributed to safeguarding world peace and to developing friendship and cooperation among countries and peoples. With the development of times and historical progress, the Interparliamentary Union has assumed a heavier mission and responsibility in the world's political arena.

Today, humanity finds itself at a new turning-point in historical progress. The old age of domination and subjugation that has lasted for thousands of years has come to an end, and a new age is being ushered in, the new age when all countries and all nations shape their destiny independently. Mankind is now faced with a common task of giving stronger impetus to the historical current and of building a free and peaceful new world.

In order to build a new world aspired to by mankind, it is necessary to abolish the unequal old international order in all fields of politics, the economy and culture and establish an equitable new international order. There are large and small countries in the world, but there cannot be high and low countries; there are developed nations and less developed nations, but there cannot be nations destined to dominate other nations or destined to be dominated. All countries and nations are equal members of the international community and as such have rights to independence and equality. No privilege and no arbitrariness should be tolerated in international relations; friendship and cooperation among countries must be developed fully on the principles of mutual respect, non- interference in the affairs of other countries, equality and mutual benefit.

Peace is the common aspiration of humanity, and only when peace is ensured can the people create an independent new life. The wrong idea and policy of trampling upon the independence of other countries and other nations and of dominating others are the cause of current threat to peace. In order to safeguard peace, all countries and nations must maintain independence, oppose power politics, and develop a powerful joint international struggle to prevent aggression and war.

Disarmament and the abolition of nuclear weapons and other types of mass-destruction weapons is now the most pressing task in ensuring peace. The large stockpile of nuclear weapons now on the earth is a menace to the survival of mankind itself. It is intolerable to use the valuable results of science and technology created by mankind and social wealth for the production of the means of aggression and war that threaten man's survival, not for the well-being and development of humanity. The test and production of nuclear weapons must be banned, the existing nuclear weapons must be reduced and, further, all nuclear weapons must be completely abolished.

The Korean people who are under the constant threat of nuclear weapons have proposed the abolition of nuclear weapons as a vital matter relating to the destiny of the nation. We strongly assert that the Korean peninsula should be made a nuclear-free, peace zone. We strongly support the peace movement of the peoples of many countries for disarmament and for the creation of nuclear-free, peace zones.

Building a free and peaceful new world is the mature requirement of our times. Today, domination and subjugation, aggression and war can benefit nobody; the way for the peoples of all countries to develop independently together and live peacefully together is the correct path that humanity must follow. Historical advance may suffer setbacks, but the forces of independence and peace will grow in strength as the days go by, and the just cause of creating a new world will triumph without fail.

The unity of the people throughout the world and cooperation among them are the guarantee for the victory of their common cause of creating a new world. The Interparliamentary Union, the centre of international deliberation by independent national assemblies, must pay attention to making the international community democratic on the basis of independence and to safeguarding world peace and security and contribute to promoting unity and cooperation among peoples. The ideas of independence, peace and friendship which our republic consistently maintains in international relations, accord with the idea advocated by the Interparliamentary Union. In future our republic will further strengthen its ties and cooperation with the Interparliamentary Union and be faithful to man's common cause of creating a free and peaceful new world.

Delegates,

Today our people are working hard to build a genuine society for the people in which man's complete independence will be realized, and to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of their country.

The political philosophy of our state is the chuche idea which requires that all consideration should be centred on man and that everything should be made to serve him. By fighting in single- hearted unity under the banner of the chuche idea, our people have been able to build, even under the most difficult conditions and circumstances, man-centred socialism in which the people are the genuine masters of the society and everything in society serves them. The democratic character of our society finds clear expression in the fact that all people, as the masters of the state, equally enjoy a sound and stable life in material and cultural aspects exercising completely equal political rights and that, on the basis of comradely love and obligation, they work together for a common goal and develop together helping and leading one another forward.

Our people take great pride and self-confidence in their just cause; they will work to the end to build an ideal society for mankind in accordance with their own faith and by their own efforts.

Reunifying Korea is the vital requirement of our nation; it is an important question which must be settled in international politics.

The Korean people are a homogeneous nation that has lived on the same territory generation after generation, being celebrated for its long history and fine cultural traditions. There is no internal cause for our nation to live divided into two now. Ours was not a defeated country in the Second World War; our people contributed to destroying fascism by their long-drawn-out national-liberation struggle. In spite of this, after the war our country was divided into the North and the South, contrary to the will of the Korean nation, and the division of the nation still continues. This not only causes our nation untold misfortune and sufferings but also constitutes a source of the unstable and dangerous situation in the Asian region. Both from the point of view of national independence and of the cause of peace in Asia and the rest of the world, the question of Korea's reunification requires an immediate settlement.

For the settlement of the question of national reunification we consistently maintain the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity which the North and the South agreed upon and jointly declared; we hold that on these principles the country should be reunified by founding a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments. We consider that doing so conforms with the wish of the Korean nation to develop independently as one reunified nation and meets the requirement of the present era of independence and peace. We recognize that it is also the most feasible way of reunifying the country peacefully when different ideas and systems really exist in the North and the South.

The will of our nation for reunification has already become fused into one by surmounting the barrier of division, and their belief that Korea is one has become unbreakable. We will actively develop the dialogue between the North and the South in conformity with the mounting trend of the whole nation towards reunification, and will make every possible effort to remove the obstacle to reunification.

The statesmen of today who treasure justice and democracy in international politics cannot be indifferent to the misfortune and sufferings of the peoples of other countries; they must cooperate to ensure the just settlement of international questions which affect the destiny of nations. We expect that the parliaments and statesmen of all countries, not to speak of the countries responsible for the Korean question, will pay deep attention to the reunification question of our country and cooperate actively for the just settlement of this question.

You delegates are the distinguished guests of our people. Everywhere you go our people will warmly receive you and bid you a hearty welcome.

I hope that during your stay in our country you will spend pleasant and useful days and I wish you success in your just work.

Thank you.

South Korean Delegate on Kim Speech

SK2904072391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0637 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (YONHAP)—North Korean President Kim Il-song repeated his call for Korean unification under a "democratic confederal republic of Koryo" Monday, throwing a wet blanket on expectations for a change of attitude.

The two Koreas should unite based on "one people, one nation: two systems, two governments," the world's longest-ruling communist leader said in the opening address at the 85th meeting of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU).

A confederal republic was the most "realistic" way to unify the nation, he said.

Korea was divided into capitalist South and communist North at the end of World War II in 1945, followed by the fratricidal Korean war in 1950-53.

Kim called on delegates to support his long-standing position that the Korean Peninsula should be a nuclear-free zone. South Korea has rejected denuclearization of the peninsula, demanding North Korea open its nuclear facilities to international inspection and control.

The opening ceremony was attended by some 2,000 people, including 880 delegates from 86 IPU-member nations and 10-odd international organizations and 687 members of the North Korean Supreme People's Assembly.

After the 40-minute ceremony, Rep. Pak Chong-su, chief South Korean delegate, said that although Kim repeated his call for a Korean confederation his speech in general was "comparatively appeasing."

South Korea is ardently seeking some sign of change in the attitude of the North Korean leadership, especially since President No Tae-u held summit talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev on the Southern island of Cheju April 20.

The IPU meeting got down to business Monday afternoon and will run until May 4. Topics ranging from non-proliferation of nuclear arms to measures against violence to children and women were to be discussed.

The South Korean delegation was to invite North Korean IPU delegates, including Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly Unification Policy Committee, to dinner Monday.

Resumption of the stalled inter-Korean parliamentarians' talks is likely to be discussed over the meal.

Plenary Session Begins 29 Apr

SK2904104491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—A plenary session of the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Union has begun at the People's Palace of Culture this afternoon.

The agenda items of the plenary session are:

1. Election of the president and vice-presidents of the conference.

2. Consideration of possible requests for inclusion of a supplementary item in the conference agenda.

3. Need to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapens of mass destruction, to ensure the security of all states and to strengthen confidence-building measures in the context of the process of disarmament.

4. Policies to put an end to violence against children and women.

5. General debate on the political, economic and social situation of the world.

6. Amendment to Article 5.2 of the Statutes of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Yang Hyong-sop who is also chairman of the DPRK Parliamentry Group was elected president of the conference.

The session continues.

North, South Korean Delegates Meet

SK2904074191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0646 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 28 (KCNA)—A meeting between parliamentarians of the North and the South was held today at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

Present on our side were Yun Ki-pok, secretary of the C.C.[Central Committee] Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the Reunification Policy Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA); Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairman of the SPA and Presidium member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland; Kim Yong-ho, vice-chairman of the C.C., the Korean Social Democratic Party and vice-chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the SPA; Han Yong-su, vice-chairman of the C.C., the Chondoist Chongu Party and vice-chairman of the Reunification Policy Committee of the SPA; and deputies to the SPA Chon Kum-chol, vice-chairman, and Paek Nam-chun, director of the Secretariat, of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland and other deputies to the SPA.

Present on the South side were Pak Chong-su, head of the "National Assembly" delegation, Chae Mun-sik and Pak Yong-suk, advisors to the delegation, and members of the delegation.

Views were exchanged at the meeting on a series of questions of concern between the parliaments of the North and South and on the question of national reunification.

After the meeting Yun Ki-pok arranged a banquet for the delegation.

Kim Yong-nam Meets German Delegates

SK2904112391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and minister of foreign affairs, met and conversed at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Sunday with the delegation of the German federal parliamentary group led by its President Fischer Leni on a visit to Korea to attend the 85th Interparliamentary Conference.

Japan

Minesweepers Set Out for Persian Gulf

OW2904055891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0335 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 (KYODO)—A six-vessel Maritime Self- Defense Force (MSDF) contingent on Monday headed for the U.S. Naval Base at Subic Bay in the Philippines, the first stop on its 13,000- kilometer voyage to the Persian Gulf, Defense Agency officials said.

The four minesweeprs and two support ships departed from three bases in Japan Friday and met Sunday off Kasari Bay on Amami Island, Kagoshima Prefecture, on the way to the Gulf.

The fleet will take part in international efforts to clear mines that Iraq laid in the Gulf during the Persian Gulf war.

A P3 antisubmarine patrol plane carrying Adm. Makoto Sakuma, MSDF chief of staff, saw off the group.

The ships, with a total crew of 510, are expected to arrive at Subic Bay around May 5. After leaving Subic, they will call at Penang in Malaysia, Colombo in Sri Lanka, and Karachi in Pakistan for fuel and food supplies.

It will take about a month for the ships to reach the Gulf.

Kaifu Briefs House on Minesweepers

OW2704005691 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Following yesterday's Lower House session, an emergency interpellation of each party was held at the Upper House plenary session convened this morning over the issue of dispatching minesweepers of the Self-Defense Force [SDF] to the Persian Gulf. In the session, Prime Minister Kaifu explained his view that minesweepers, if they are to be dispatched again in the future, will be sent abroad only for peaceful or humanitarian purposes and that they will not be sent to disputed areas.

Prime Minister Kaifu reported to the Upper House plenary session on the decision to dispatch minesweepers of the SDF to remove mines in the Persian Gulf. In response, representatives of each party asked questions. The Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] expressed support for the decision. Democratic Socialist Party and Sports Party and National Sports Party [Sports Kokumin-to] also supported it in principle. Moreover, the Social Democratic Party of Japan, Komeito, Communist Party of Japan, and Rengo Upper House opposed the dispatch. From these standpoints, the representatives of each party asked questions regarding the basis for dispatch and its connection to the Constitution.

In response, Prime Minister Kaifu again stressed that the decision to dispatch the minesweepers was made in the wake of the United Nations' announced ceasefire and that it is not a dispatch attended with use of force, which is prohibited by the Constitution. Regarding the issue of applying the brakes to the dispatch of minesweepers in the future, Prime Minister Kaifu said that he is not thinking about dispatching them without principle or to areas of conflict, and that they will be dispatched strictly for peaceful or humanitarian purposes. Thus, he explained his view that dispatch of minesweepers, even if they are dispatched again in the future, will be limited to only peaceful purposes and that they will not be sent to an area where conflict continues. He said that the Constitution, which prohibits Japan from becoming involved in a war, will be the final consideration on applying the brakes.

Moreover, Prime Minister Kaifu said that mine removal operations will be conducted under Japan's own command and order. However, he also explained his view that in the interest of coordination, consultations may be held with other nations, including the United States, which are sending minesweepers to the Gulf, if warranted by the situation.

'Regrets' Over U.S. Construction Dispute

OW2704081391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0801 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 27 KYODO—The Japanese Government Saturday expressed regrets over the overnight U.S. announcement of a possible retaliation to bar Japanese firms from public construction projects despite a last-ditch bilateral negotiation which is still underway in Washington.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said that the two countries are now holding talks in Washington about how Japan can help U.S. and other foreign firms win in construction project biddings in Japan. He said he cannot understand why the United States announced such an intention at this time.

U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills in Washington said Friday that her office was preparing, under section 301 of the 1974 trade act, to shut out Japanese construction firms from some Government- funded U.S. public construction projects from May 31, after a 30- day public comment period. She said the move is because the Japanese Government still discriminates against U.S. construction companies seeking to bid on public projects in Japan.

The U.S. Trade Representative's office must determine by May 1 if Japan has made progress in opening its public works market wider in line with the 1988 agreement.

Sakamoto said, "the U.S. negotiators should feel heavy responsibility in placing the one-sided retaliatory move at this point," and he hopes the U.S. Government will handle this case appropriately.

Officials at the Ministry of Construction also said they are puzzled by the timing of the latest U.S. action, because negotiators at the ongoing talks in Washington appeared to be reaching a compromise soon after weeklong talks. A ministry official said the U.S. move is to make Japan compromise more at the closing of the meeting. Another official said it may be intended to get favorable attention from the U.S. Congress and the public.

At the beginning of the Washington talks, the U.S. side warned Japan that it will propose sanctions if the negotiations failed to reach an accord. The Japanese negotiators countered that if Washington imposes such sanctions, Japan would then withdraw the help for foreign companies' successful biddings in Japanese construction projects.

Meanwhile, the Japanese construction industry reacted calmly toward the U.S. action as orders they receive in U.S public projects are not very large.

But deep concern was voiced by some builders, including Kajima Corp., whose contract for a subway construction in Washington was canceled in 1988 when the Japan-U.S. construction dispute surfaced. A Kajima official said, "if Japanese companies are to be shut out again, it will be a serious blow to the image of Japanese construction companies."

U.S. orders for public projects received by Japanese construction companies in 1990 were not so large, according to Japanese industry sources. Kajima Corp., the largest contractor among the Japanese firms, received an estimated 95 billion yen worth of U.S. orders in 1990, of which 78 billion yen worth was from private sectors, Kajima officials said.

An official at Obayashi Corp., which is now involved in a joint sewage treatment plant project in San Francisco, said he believes the impact of a possible U.S. sanctions will not be very strong. The value for the San Francisco order is relatively small at 7.8 billion yen and the ongoing project would not be a target of the possible retaliation, the official said.

Hajime Sako, head of the Japan Federation of Construction Contractors, said that during last week's bilateral private-sector construction talks, U.S. representatives highly rated Japan's help for foreign firms' participation in construction project biddings in this country. He said the U.S. Government's retaliation would disrupt a good relationship between construction industries of the two countries and hoped for Washington to refrain from such an action.

Hashimoto Visits U.S.; G-7 Countries Meet

Hashimoto: U.S. Understands Policies

OW2804145791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1450 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Washington, April 28 KYODO—The United States understands Japan's monetary policies, Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said Sunday. He said after a meeting with U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady that they discussed each country's macroeconomic policies.

The meeting took place before a White House meeting between President George Bush and finance ministers and central bank governors of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized countries.

Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan also attended the Hashimoto-Brady meeting.

After the White House session, the G-7 ministers and governors will hold lengthy talks on their economies, and aid to Kurdish refugees in Iraq, as well as to the Soviet Union.

"We had frank discussions," Hashimoto said after meeting Brady and Greenspan. He quoted them as saying that the United States "understands (Japan's position) clearly."

Hashimoto on Worry Over 'Twin Risks'

OW2804163391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1558 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Washington, April 28 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto told U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady Sunday that Japan is still concerned about the "twin risks" of slower economic growth and inflation, a Japanese official said.

"If asked to choose one of the two risks, I would say that Japan is worried a little bit more about economic slowdown than inflation. But various economic indicators show its still premature to conclude that the Japanese economy has come to a turning point," Hashimoto was quoted as saying. "Therefore, I have no mind to change Japan's macroeconomic policies, including monetary policy, right now," Hashimoto said, according to the official.

The Hashimoto-Brady talks took place at Brady's office at the Treasury Department and lasted for about 40 minutes. Also present were Makoto Utsumi, vice finance minister for international affairs, and Tadao Chino, director general of the Finance Ministry's international finance bureau. Among U.S. participants were Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan and Treasury Undersecretary David Mulford, the Japanese official said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Brady had briefed Hashimoto mainly on Washington's monetary policy. But he declined to reveal whether

Brady had called on Japan to lower its interest rates to help stimulate the faltering global economy.

The Japanese official described Sunday's meeting as a "coordination and exchange of views" ahead of the gathering of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations—the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada.

'Sources' on Beginning of G-7 Talks

OW2804160391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1528 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Washington, April 28 KYODO—Top finance officials and central bankers from the world's seven major industrialized nations on Sunday began talks at Washington's presidential guesthouse, Blair House, sources said.

Ahead of the talks, U.S. President George Bush met with participants—finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of Seven (G-7) nations, composed of the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada, the sources said. Bush is believed to have called on other G-7 nations to lower interest rates to buoy up the global economy and cope with a possible huge shortage of funds stemming from the reconstruction of Kuwait and other states hit by the Persian Gulf war, and Central and Eastern Europe.

A semiannual world economic outlook report released recently by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) predicted that world economy will post a mere 1.9 percent growth in 1991, the worst performance in nine years.

Interest rates are expected to dominate discussions at the closed-door G-7 meeting. However, it is still uncertain if an agreement will be reached on the matter, the sources said.

According to sources, U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady called for lower global interest rates at an informal G-7 meeting of finance ministers in London on April 14. The sources said France and Italy agreed to the U.S. view but that Germany, Britain, and Canada came out in favor of placing more importance on keeping a lid on inflation. Japan took a neutral stance, they added.

Many analysts believe that in view of Germany's tough stance, another round of U.S.-German face-off is likely at the just-started G-7 gathering. The meeting is also expected to deal with financial assistance for Kurdish refugees fleeing Iraq, and how to forgive part of loans in arrears to Latin American nations.

G-7 Statement Issued

OW2904041891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0223 GMT 29 Apr 91

[By Kazuo Mikami]

[Text] Washington, April 28 (KYODO)—Top monetary officials from the world's seven major industrialized nations, averting a showdown over interest rates, emphasized the need to address the twin risks of a global economic slowdown and inflation. In a statement issued at the end of a meeting of the Group of Seven (G-7) nations, finance ministers and central bankers said it is important for monetary and fiscal policies to "provide the basis for lower real interest rates and a sustained global economic recovery with price stability."

"Such a medium-term strategy was the best way of reducing potential risks and uncertainties in the current outlook," the statement said.

Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said at a news conference, "I would like to give a 100 percent mark to the statement." A similar view was also voiced by German Finance Minister Theo Waigel.

In addition, U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady told reporters the U.S. economy will pick up by summer.

Hashimoto said, "while some differences were observed in the G-7 nations on whether priority should be given to an economic slowdown or inflation, the statement will have implications in each nation's conduct of fiscal and monetary policy." Hashimoto also said Japan is making an all-out effort to curb rising land prices to provide a basis for lower interest rates ahead. "Japan has now reached a point where we can put the brake on such rises, and I would like to see the smile of Mr. Mieno."

Yasushi Mieno, Bank of Japan Governor, who was also at the press conference, said, "The present land price level still makes it hard for me to nod with a bright smile."

On exchange rates, the statement merely said the finance leaders "reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate closely on exchange markets."

Hashimoto said the G-7 members expressed no concern over the current levels of major currencies, including the German mark. He expressed hope, however, that the yen will rise somewhat, in light of current account imbalances and Japan's economic fundamentals, and he said no G-7 members opposed his position.

The finance leaders from Japan, the United States, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada also discussed the Soviet Union, the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, and cooperation with developing nations.

The statement indicated little discussion was devoted to the problems of the Soviet Union, only saying the participants "noted the difficult economic situation in the Soviet Union and the need for sustained economic reforms."

On the Uruguay Round talks, it said the finance leaders "emphasized the importance of bringing the Uruguay Round to a successful conclusion."

The G-7 "welcomed the reform efforts underway in central and Eastern Europe, and in Latin America, Africa, and Asia, and "agreed that a strong global economic recovery and open markets in the major industrial countries will provide necessary support for these efforts," the statement said.

Interest Rate Dispute Ends in Draw

OW2904042191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0314 GMT 29 Apr 91

[By Kazuo Mikami]

[Text] Washington, April 28 (KYODO)—A tag match over interest rates in the industrialized world seems to have ended in a draw.

The occasion was Sunday's gathering of finance ministers and central bank governors from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial powers. The G-7 members are Japan, the United States, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada.

The latest meeting represents the third round of a tug-of-war between a group led by a recession-bound U.S. and the other headed by inflation-wary Germany. In this round, Japan was referee.

The first round of wrestling over interest rates came at an informal G-7 meeting in London April 14. U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady called for lower global interest rates. The call was taken as Washington push to see Germany ease its grip on credit to avert a global recession.

At the London gathering, France and Italy favored Washington's view whereas Britain and Canada sided with Bonn, informed sources said. Japan took a neutral stance, they said.

Round two took place last Thursday when German Bundesbank President Karl Otto Poehl turned down Brady's proposal. The rejection invited a counterblow from U.S. Treasury Undersecretary David Mulford who noted "real interest rates are at record high levels in Germany where growth is clearly slowing down."

Washington apparently hopes to obtain support from Tokyo, and some sources speculate it has already got its nod to lower interest rates. On the surface, Japan remains cautious.

Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto has repeatedly said Japan is interested in avoiding a slowdown in its economic growth and keeping a lid on inflation.

In a gesture to show that there are no differences over the matter between the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Japan (BOJ), Hashimoto firmly shook hands with BOJ Governor Yasushi Mieno, widely known as a strong inflation-fighter, at informal dinner talks with Japanese reporters the day before the G-7 meeting. Hashimoto, however, has repeatedly said priority of Japan's macroeconomic policy has begun to shift a little bit to growth rather than inflation every time he referred to the so-called "twin risks."

The U.S. went to the ring for the third round of battle over interest rates at the G-7 meeting with two influential pieces of economic data.

First, the International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s May 1991 edition of the world economic outlook projects a continued slowdown in global growth to 1.25 percent in 1991, the worst performance in nine years, from 2 percent in 1990.

Second, the U.S. gross national product (GNP) contracted at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 2.8 percent in the first quarter following a 1.6 percent decrease in the fourth quarter of 1990.

As it turned out, the communique issued at the end of the closed- door G-7 meeting indicates that both the U.S. and Germany managed to save face.

It said the G-7 financial leaders "noted the signs of prospective economic recovery and lower inflation in those countries which are in recession.

"They also noted the persistence of high real interest rates and the slowing of economic activity in those countries which until recently had been experiencing strong expansion," the statement said.

Prime Minister Kaifu Embarks on ASEAN Trip

OW2704005591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0032 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 27 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu left Tokyo on Saturday for a 10-day Southeast Asian trip which will take him to Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, Singapore, and the Philippines.

His departure by chartered flight, however, left Haneda Airport more than an hour behind schedule because of a fuel leak, officials said.

Kaifu will first fly to Kuala Lumpur and meet immediately with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed later in the day.

Kaifu will depart Malaysia on April 29 for Brunei, where he will meet Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah the same day.

He will go on to Bangkok on April 30, meeting Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun that day and King Phumiphon Adunyadet the following day.

He will then proceed to Singapore on May 2, where he will meet Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong. On May 3, Kaifu will deliver a policy speech on Asia and meet the press before talking with former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

Kaifu will arrive in the Philippines on the last leg of his tour May 4 and will meet President Corazon Aquino the next day before returning to Tokyo on May 6.

Nakayama Leaves for New Zealand, Australia

OW2604141091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1330 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama left Friday for an 11-day official trip to New Zealand and Australia.

The main purpose of his trip is to attend the 11th Japan-Australia ministerial committee meeting in Canberra on May 2-3, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Nakayama will first visit New Zealand, arriving Saturday in Christchurch, and then will move to the capital, Wellington, where he will meet with visiting French Premier Pierre Rocard on Monday, the officials said.

The foreign minister will leave for Australia following talks Tuesday with New Zealand's minister of foreign affairs, external relations and trade, Don McKinnon, and a call on Prime Minister Jim Bolger.

These meetings will be the first high-level bilateral contacts since last October, when the National Party swept the Labor Party from office.

In the Australian capital, Canberra, Nakayama will join other Japanese ministers at the 11th Japan-Australia ministerial committee meeting, last held in Tokyo in January 1989.

He will meet with his Australian counterpart, Gareth Evans, and Prime Minister Bob Hawke, who will host a roundtable discussion on the first day of what are planned as wide-ranging bilateral discussions.

At the meeting, the two countries will review the progress they have made since they agreed during their previous talks in Tokyo to build a "constructive partnership" aimed at enhancing peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and strengthening the open world economic system, the officials said.

Nakayama is scheduled to return home May 6, they said.

Nakasone To Meet Jiang Zeming, Li Peng

OW2804125591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1142 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 28 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone will visit China April 30-May 7 to attend the opening ceremony of a Japan-China Youth Center and meet top Chinese Communist Party and Government leaders to discuss political and security matters, political sources said Sunday. Nakasone will make the China trip as the Japanese Government representative at the opening ceremony, his first overseas tour after he rejoined the ruling Liberal Democratic Party last Friday. He resigned from the party two years ago to take responsibility for the shares-for-favors Recruit scandal.

Nakasone will meet Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin, Premier Li Peng, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, and other government and Communist Party officials, the sources said.

"I intend to have a heart-to-heart talk with Chinese officials on not only bilateral issues but also peace and security in the world," Nakasone told reporters prior to his eight-day visit to Beijing, and a tour of Dalian and Changchun in northeast China. The talk will be the first between Nakasone and top Chinese politicians since Japan dispatched a four minesweepers to the Persian Gulf as the first overseas nontraining mission for the Self- Defense Forces (SDF) since 1954, when the SDF was established. China's response to the minesweeper dispatch would be a focus of attention, the sources said.

The opening ceremony of a Japan-China youth exchange center in Beijing will also be attended by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and Makoto Tanabe, vice chairman of the No. 1 opposition Social Democratic Party [SDP]. Twenty-four LDP and SDP parliamentarians will accompany the three politicians, the sources said. The center began constructing with Japanese financial support while Nakasone was prime minister.

Takeshita will stay in Beijing from May 2-4, the political sources said.

Nakasone and Takeshita had taken a low profile in domestic politics after being sidelined by public anger following the Recruit bribery scandal, in which Recruit Co., the information and real estate conglomerate, had allegedly distributed over 1.5 billion yen worth of its group shares for favors to senior politicians and bureaucrats.

Watanabe Departs for Europe, Soviet Union

OW2704080791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0743 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 27 KYODO—Former Finance Minister Michio Watanabe left Tokyo on Saturday on an 11-day swing of four European countries and the Soviet Union.

Watanabe, who heads his own faction of the governing Liberal Democratic Party, is scheduled to tour Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, and the Soviet Union before returning to Japan on May 7, LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] sources said.

Faction staffers are trying to arrange meetings for Watanabe with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Russian Federation leader Boris Yeltsin, the sources said, but no appointments have been set so far.

Watanabe's entourage includes two former Ministers of Posts and Telecommunications, Masateru Nakayama and Senpachi Oishi, both of whom belong to the Watanabe faction.

Defense Agency Chief Leaves for Canada, U.S.

OW2804074291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0445 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 28 KYODO—Defense Agency Director General Yukihiko Ikeda left Tokyo Sunday for a visit to Canada and the United States for talks with their defense officials. The trip, Ikeda's first since he became defense minister in December, is expected to focus on the two rounds of talks he plans to have with U.S. Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney during his six-day stay in the United States. The Defense Agency hopes the trip will underscore the close cooperation between Japan and the U.S. on defense.

Ikeda is expected to reaffirm Japan's readiness to promote military cooperation with the United States, government sources said. Other possible topics on the agenda include regional security issues in Asia, incuding North Korea's nuclear development program and inspection of its nuclear facilities, and the Cambodian dispute.

North Korea

Commentary Given on Pyongyang IPU Meeting

SK2904084491 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0020 GMT 29 Apr 91

[NODONG SINMUN 29 April article: "We Congratulate the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Meeting"]

[Text] Today, the 85th IPU meeting begins in Pyongyang. The forthcoming meeting in Pyongyang is a meeting of parliamentarians from many world nations and is of great significance in opposing war, in ensuring peace and security and in promoting understanding and cooperation among parliamentarians from many world nations.

Our people congratulate the 85th IPU meeting and welcome the guests who came to Pyongyang to attend this meeting.

The IPU, which was founded in June 1989, embraces 113 national parliamentary groups as regular members and two regional assemblies as associate members.

This Union is a nongovernmental organization. It takes as its major aims such issues as strengthening contact and ties among parliamentarians of every nation, helping solve urgent international problems and conflicts by discussion and arbitration, developing cooperation among the peoples of every nation and ensuring the peace and security of the world.

The congress, the supreme organ of the Union, chiefly discussses such political issues as local disputes, and issues of arms reduction, development, public health, population, environment, rights of women, anticolonialism, humanitarian laws, and other issues of international interest. The congress then adopts relevant resolutions.

The IPU made various efforts in the past to meet its mission and purpose. Thanks to its peace-loving activities, the Union today holds a deserved position in the international arena, and is playing an affirmative role in ensuring global peace, in developing the society of mankind and in developing cooperation among the nations.

During the period of the Pyongyang meeting, an opening conference, two council meetings, 10 plenary meetings, and a series of other meetings will be held. The agenda items will be discussed based on the agreement of the meeting and will adopt relevant resolutions.

During the Pyongyang meeting, in particular, the issue of preventing the dissemination of nuclear weapons and other mass lethal weapons, and the issue of the security of all nations, the issue of strengthening the steps for creating trust in the course of disarmament, the issue of ending violence against children and women, and the global political, economic, and social situation will be discussed.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Today peace-loving people of the world are worried that nuclear weapons are being disseminated to and accumulated in many parts of the world. In order to prevent a new global war and to save mankind from the calamities of nuclear war, the production, testing, storage, and use of nuclear weapons must be prohibited and all nuclear weapons must finally be eliminated.

Preventing dissemination of mass lethal weapons, including nuclear weapons, and realizing disarmament are of great significance in removing the danger of nuclear war and realizing global peace and security.

Huge quantities of mass lethal weapons including nuclear weapons have been accumulated on the earth. Unless they are removed, mankind cannot avoid the constant danger of war nor can they achieve their wish to live in peace.

The Korean peninsula is the place where the danger of nuclear war is most dense.

As has been widely known, more than 1,000 nuclear weapons are deployed in South Korea and tens of thousands of foreign troops are stationed there. Besides, exercises for nuclear attack have been constantly staged.

Because of this, the danger of nuclear war is increasing with each passing day on the Korean peninsula. This evokes worry on the part of peace-loving people.

Proceeding from a lofty sense of responsibility for global peace, our Republic put forward numerous proposals for realizing disarmament on the Korean peninsula and ensuring a durable peace, and is making every effort to sincerely realize them.

We put forward a proposal a long time ago for turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone, and proposed that a peace treaty be concluded between

Korea and the United States and a nonaggression declaration be adopted between the North and the South.

Our peaceloving position and efforts aroused the support and sympathy of the progressive people of the world. We believe that the friends from foreign countries who are attending the Pyongyang meeting will pay deep attention to the situation on the Korean peninsula and will carry out activities helpful for removing the danger of nuclear war from this region and realizing peace and the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The question of human rights today has emerged as an important issue in international life. Human rights in our country are thoroughly ensured by laws and our people are substantively enjoying human rights.

Socialism in our country is a unique man-centered socialism which thoroughly embodied the independent and creative original demand of mankind.

Our people have become genuine masters of the state and society, and everything is to serve them. Our people are enjoying genuine political life, material life, and cultural life. Neither the human rights issue nor the issue of children and women have been raised in our country.

The participants in the meeting will directly witness and sense this during their stay in our country.

We firmly believe that the current Pyongyang meeting will be an occasion for many foreign friends to deepen their understanding of our country and to strengthen friendship and the feeling of amicability with our people.

We sincerely hope that the 85th IPU meeting will proceed successfully and the participants in the meeting will have a rewarding stay in our country.

Daily Criticizes ROK-Soviet Summit Talks

SK2704055491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0416 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 27 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN, organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on April 27 carries a commentator's article headlined "'One-Act Drama' in Cheju Island," the full text of which reads:

An "one-act drama" dubbed "South Korean-Soviet summit" was staged in South Korean Cheju Island on April 20.

The world public paid attention to this "meeting" arranged at a time when tension and confrontation resumed their acute proportions on the Korean peninsula, bringing a heavy danger of a new war.

The situation on the Korean peninsula is racing to an unforeseeable phase due to the anti-peace and anti-DPRK clamour of the United States and the South Korean authorities.

The No Tae-u group which is putting on airs, encouraged by the bluff of its American master who has got on its high horse after the Gulf war, reminding us of the Korean saying that the goby leaps when the mullet jumps, clamoured about "unification through absorption" of the North and, as if it were not enough, went the lengths of openly declaring that it would "make a surprise armed attack" on our Republic. It was against this background that No Tae-u set the stage for the Cheju Island "meeting." In this he was urged by the dream of "isolating and stifling" the North at any cost by wooing the guest who was returning "empty-handed" from his Japan tour.

It had been said that the "meeting" was not expected, but some time later it was announced that the guest would "stop over for a moment" outside the gate. This, however, was declared "an official visit" overnight. This fact itself gives a glimpse into the dark scene behind the screen of this improper "meeting."

To make the long story short, the "meeting" in Cheju Island was an offspring of the anti-national crime of the South Korean authorities to stage the tragedy of fratricidal war, captive to the foolish dream of "unification by prevailing over communism" and permanent division.

This was why South Korean students and people of various strata, when the projected Cheju Island "meeting" was made public, rose up as one and held massive protest rallies and demonstrations, pointing out that the No Tae-u group was seeking to "freeze division" and "stay long in power" by obtaining support to "unilateral entry into the United Nations" in return for "economic cooperation."

Nevertheless, the South Korean authorities hosted the Cheju Island "meeting" and, moreover, is noisily advertising that it is "conducive" to the peace, security and reunification of the Korean peninsula.

But, the fact is quite the contrary.

What happened on the Korean peninsula after their "meetings" in San Francisco and Moscow were only the increase of tensions and the danger of a new war.

This was because the No group got more arrogant after joining hands with the Soviet Union and began refusing dialogue with the North and deepening confrontation and division, claiming to be superior in strength.

The South Korean authorities have driven into a crisis the North-South high-level talks which had been arranged with so much efforts by forcing the "Team Spirit" joint manoeuvres with the United States this year again, defying our repeated demand and warnings.

Shortly after the announcement of the plan of the Cheju Island "meeting," they openly let loose the war outburst threatening a "forestalling strike" at us.

Such being the situation, no matter how many times "discussions" may be held "on the settlement of peace on the Korean peninsula and its reunification," they cannot help being like adding fuel to fire.

At the Cheju Island "meeting" No Tae-u entreated his partner to "induce" the North to "reform" and "openness." He meant by this to pull down our socialist system and "unify the country by prevailing over communism" with the help of an outside force.

No Tae-u at the "meeting" came out with the "problem of international nuclear inspection" on the North. This was intended to find a pretext to provoke a war.

It was shameless of No to call for "inspection" of our non-existent "nuclear facilities," not uttering a word about the large number of U.S. nuclear weapons deployed all over South Korea, their warheads pointed at us.

Commenting on this issue, a newspaper of an Asian nation fairly wrote that "South Korea should understand how unrealistic it is with the presence of the U.S. forces allowed in its land" and "should reflect on the presence of the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons in South Korea."

All the unbiased people view this problem that way.

Judging from the process of the "meeting", one of No Tae-u's main objectives was to create a climate for legitimating a permanent division of the country internationally.

No Tae-u said South Korea would unilaterally join the United Nations if the North refuses "simultaneous entry into the U.N." and asked for support to this.

The U.N. membership of the North and the South of Korea is a matter that should be discussed and settled within our nation. It is not a matter requiring a favor of an outside force.

If the South Korean authorities had not deliberately brought the inter-Korean high-level talks to a rupture, a more reasonable and flexible way of joining the United Nations would have been discussed.

Through the "meeting" in Cheju Island, as can be seen in the above, No Tae-u fully revealed his colour as a dyed-in-the-wool flunkeyist traitor utterly indifferent to the interests and the future destiny of the nation.

It is not without reason that the South Korean people of various strata denounced the "meeting" in Cheju Island as an "insult to the soul of the nation" and a "lever for freezing division."

A still more ridiculous sight seen through the "talks" in Cheju Island was that No Tae-u made every conceivable foolish utterance in an attempt to improve his image.

Comparing the "talks" in Cheju Island to the summit talks between big powers held in Europe, he gave himself airs as if that were something like a "symbol" in Asia. Moreover, he made much ado, as if a few dollars granted by South Korea would be a big "help" to saving the economy of the Soviet Union from the verge of bankruptcy.

It is a tragic comedy for No Tae-u to dare talk that way while finding himself driven to a tight corner, denounced and rejected by people in South Korea.

According to a South Korean radio report quoting No Tae-u's explanation of the results of the "summit talks" to his clan after the "meeting" in Cheju Island, the guest "took a position of accepting all the stands" of No as regards "inter-Korean dialogues, the problem of the North's signing the nuclear safeguards accord, the issue of South Korea's entry into the U.N.," etc. and expressed "respect" and "sympathy" for them.

No Tae-u may think that the results of the "meeting" were gained by making an empty promise to grant loans of an amount of dollars which South Korea cannot afford under the present situation.

Conspiracy and tieup based on money cannot last long and will burst like soap bubbles sooner or later.

As far as the guest side is concerned, it is said that the recent "meeting" exposed the tragic sight of a family on the decline.

A foreign radio said the Cheju Island "meeting" lowered to the ground the position of the country which once held a legendary position in the world.

Although the curtain fell on the "one-act drama" in Cheju Island, the despicable nature of No Tae-u as a flunkeyist traitor going against the reunification and seeking a permanent division of the nation will never be concealed.

It is clear that, contrary to the big talk of the parties concerned, the "meeting" will only result in stimulating confrontation, aggravation of the tensions and "unification by prevailing over communism," not peace and detente, on the Korean peninsula.

Cheju Island, a scenic spot off the southern coast of our motherland, will curse long that its name was blurred after being a fussy stage of the scandalous "summit talks."

Journalist Chairman on South's Defense Minister

SK2604045691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 26 (KCNA)—Hyon Chun-kuk, chairman of the central committee of the Korean Journalists Union, in his statement April 24 denounced the outburst of the South Korean puppet defence minister threatening to "surprise and destroy the atomic reactor facilities" of the North, branding it as a criminal utterance ruthlessly trampling down the ardent desire of the nation for peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

The statement says:

It was with the intention to openly publish their plan of war against the North through mass media that the puppet military boss made the bellicose outburst at a meeting sponsored by newspaper editors.

No one can vouch that the United States which has become more arrogant these days after the collapse of the balance of forces in the international arena and obsessed with megalomania after the Gulf war would not unleash an all-out war of aggression against the DPRK by surprise while wielding firebrands with the puppets.

The warmaniacs including the No Tae-u ruling group must be removed from the nation. They must admit their criminal act in letting out the fanatic bellicose outburst and apologise to the country and the nation.

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets ignite another war on the Korean peninsula, captive to an anachronistic dream, they will be burned to death in the flames they kindled.

Pyongyang Mass Meeting Welcomes South Crewmen

SK2504054491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 25 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 25 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang mass meeting was held Wednesday to welcome South Korean young crewmen Yi Son-pil and Kim Kwon-hwi who came over to the northern half of Korea some time ago.

Orders of the Republic and a large sum of monetary prize were conferred on them and souvenirs presented to them at the meeting.

Sin An-pang, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, in his welcome address praised their defection as an expression of protest against the anti-popular colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group and as a manifestation of their steadfast will and bold determination not to live under oppression any longer in such a bad society as South Korea.

Yi Son-pil in his reply said: In the North, I was most surprised at the fact that all the state officials and cadres are chosen from among the working masses and they are serving the working masses.

Noting that all the people in the North are ensured stable jobs and houses by the state and live without worries, enjoying the benefits of free medical care system, he said he feels in every fibre of his being everyday and every moment that the North is, indeed, the best society for the working masses to live in.

U.S. Military Exercises in South Reported

U.S. 23 Apr 'Provocative' Action

SK2504051891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434 GMT 25 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 25 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Airforce Command staged provocative air and ground joint strike exercises in the sky above Anmyon and Oeyon Islets, Kongju, Yoju and Kunwi areas of South Korea on April 23, according to military sources.

Mobilized in the aerial military exercises aimed at surprise attack on the northern half of Korea were formations of F-15 and F-16 nuclear capable fighter-bombers based in the Pacific and fighter-bombers and assault planes of the U.S. Airforce present in South Korea and the puppet airforce, more than 140 in all.

On the same day, the U.S. Pacific Navy Command deployed formations of A-6 assault planes in the Osan Airforce Base from the Atsuki Base of Japan.

On the 23rd and 24th, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities mobilized U-2, RC-12, RV-1, RF-4, and RF-5 high-altitude strategic and tactical reconnaissance planes 16 times to commit aerial espionage and photographic reconnaissance on our side.

And the South Korean authorities sent F-16, F-4, F-5, RF-4 planes to the sky above Uijongbu and Tongduchon areas to support the offensive operation exercises of ground units against the North on April 23.

A total of 630 military planes were mobilized in the aerial military exercises in the sky above South Korea on April 23 alone.

25 Apr U.S. Aerial Exercise

SK2704054591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0525 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 27 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Airforce Command on April 25 staged joint air strike exercises against the northern half of Korea in the sky above South Korea, according to military sources.

Dozens of fighter-bombers, observation planes and reconnaissance planes belonging to the U.S. 7th Airforce and the South Korean puppet airforce were mobilized in the exercises which were staged in the air above Anmyon Island, Samchok and Sangdong.

The U.S. imperialists swiftly moved an "EA-6" electronic jamming plane based in Iwakuni, Japan, to the U.S. Airforce base in South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets let such high-altitude strategic reconnaissance planes and Army reconnaissance planes as "U-2," "RV-1," "RF-4," "RF-5" fly over the military demarcation line area ten odd times for intensive aerial reconnaissance on the North.

The South Korean puppets on the same day mobilized a large ground force in Kapyong area to stage a land attack operation under the support of formations of A-37 assault planes.

They sent combatant ships to the sea off Kangrung and staged a landing exercise under the support of formations of "F-5" fighter- bombers.

More than 510 military planes flew over South Korea on April 25 for aerial military exercises.

Report on SPA's Second Day Afternoon Session

SK2704071891 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 12 Apr 91

[Text] From now on we will report the news on the second day afternoon sitting of the Second Session of the Ninth DPRK Supreme People's Assembly [SPA]. At the sitting, discussions continued on the first agenda item "On the Result of the Fulfillment of the DPRK State Budget for 1990 and the State Budget for 1991."

At the sitting Deputy Yun Pyong-kwon participated in discussions.

[Begin Yun Pyong-kwon recording] Comrade deputies: I fully support and consent to this year's state budget submitted to the SPA this time for deliberation, recognizing that it has been correctly compiled so as to further strengthen the country's economic might; to smoothly solve the food, clothing, and housing problems of the people; and to enhance the superiority of our socialism. [applause]

Last year, the first year of the nineties, under the wise leadership of the great leader and our party, our people vigorously advanced while holding aloft the banner of socialism, and thus won brilliant victories in socialist construction. They cannot repress high pride and dignity over this fact.

Last year, upholding the far-sighted capital building plan of the great leader and our party, builders and soldiers of the People's Army vigorously waged the grand construction battle to more magnificently and brilliantly build Pyongyang into a socialist capital which grows in grandeur and prosperity with each passing day. As a result, they registered proud success which amazes the people of the world.

Last year, builders and soldiers of the People's Army—who rose up in the battle of loyalty in order to realize the far-sighted plan of the dear comrade leader to more smoothly solve the people's dwelling problem by building 50,000 modern housing units in Pyongyang—outstandingly carried out construction projects such as the digging of 5,323,000 cubic meters, the tamping of 944,000 cubic meters, completing a large number of structure assembling, plastering, and pipe laying, thus vigorously accelerating the construction of Tongil Street. As a result, last year builders and soldiers of the People's Army performed the labor exploits of beginning 30,000 new housing units and completing the construction of 7,100 housing units. [applause]

Along with this, we increased the axis of the 120-meter wide main road by building the approximately 4 kilometer-long Tongil Street, and we undertook such large-scale facility construction projects as the first-phase construction work of the tong [east] Pyongyang sewerage disposal plant—with a capacity of 250,000 cubic meters—and a large-scale water reservoir construction project. Thus, we have built the firm foundation which makes it possible to complete the construction of Tongil Street ahead of schedule.

The speed with which we built the 30,000 housing units in Tongil Street last year is four times greater as compared with the construction speed of Munsu Street and six times as compared with the construction speed of (Ansantaek) Street. Last year, our General Bureau of Construction concentrated great efforts on adopting the construction method which uses (?completely assembled) [magam wansonghwa doen] large-type prefabricated construction materials in order to ensure construction speed and quality of Tongil Street at a high level.

Large-type prefabricated construction materials produced at the modern 17 August Pyongyang Prefabricated Construction Materials Plant use less prefabricated construction materials per [word indistinct] than compared to those of the previously used medium-type ones. They have windows, sanitary equipment, (?heating lights), and even electric wire. Therefore, the speed of assembling these large-type prefabricated construction materials was three times as fast as compared with that of assembling the previously used medium- type ones.

In an effort to enhance the assembly rate of large-type prefabricated construction materials, we not only enhanced the level of industrialization and modernization of prefabricated construction materials plants, but also prepared some 20 large-type prefabricated construction materials transport trucks and large-type cranes, and actively introduced reasonable assembly methods. Thus, we led every construction site to seethe with amazing miracles and innovations. In particular, the construction battle of last December was a construction battle of loyalty which fully demonstrated our builders' spirit of absoluteness and unconditionality.

With the end of the year only one month off, we still had the task of assembling 775 housing units in Tongil street. Assembling so many housing units in the winter season was by no means an easy job. Therefore, our functionaries—who knew very well that this difficult construction task was the key factor to whether or not we could implement the party's policy of building 30,000 housing units by the end of the year—went down to construction sites with the firm faith and strong will of unconditionally implementing this task and inspired the builders to a heroic struggle by actively waging political and economic instigation and propaganda.

Workers and technicians of the prefabricated construction materials plant who knew that success in prefabricated construction rests with giving priority to the production of prefabricated construction materials boldly introduced new technology into practice and, thus, increased the production output of prefabricated construction materials more than twice over that of the previous year. Crane operators and the workers who assemble prefabricated construction materials operated all their facilities at full capacity and created the new record of assembling prefabricated construction materials for 42 housing units in a day.

What overflowed in the hearts of our construction workers on these rewarding days was the firm faith, "What the party decides we will do," that is to say, the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude. Our construction workers, who rose up as one, cherishing this firm faith and fighting spirit in their hearts, waged heroic struggle in the face of severe cold, completed the work of assembling prefabricated construction materials for 770 housing units in a short period of time, and, thus, gave a report of loyalty and a report of victory to the great leader and the party center. [applause]

Last year, upholding the decision of the 17th plenary meeting of the 6th party Central Committee, we mobilized and utilized to the maximum inner reserves and, at the same time, waged a conservation campaign. As a result, last year we economized and conserved 3,100 tons of steel materials, 13,700 tons of cement, 2,500 cubic meters of logs, and 6,500 tons of coal, which are enough to build more than 800 modern housing units. Thus, we contributed to helping the country's economy and to increasing the financial incomes of the state.

In this way, last year our General Bureau of Construction boldly introduced advanced construction methods and improved enterprise management. As a result, last year our bureau overfulfilled the construction and assembly plan by 3 percent, the plan for industrial production by 9.1 percent, and the state budgetary income plan by 30.3 percent. [end recording]

The speaker continued by saying that upholding the slogan of loyalty, "What the party decides we will do," the General Bureau of Construction will fully mobilize the revolutionary zeal and creative positiveness of all construction workers, fully plan and organize economic organizational work, and combat command, and, thus, outstandingly carry out the monumental capital construction tasks, including the construction of Tongil streeet, and that, thus, it will display once again the heroic spirit of construction workers of the capital.

Deputy Yim Chuk-son participated in the debate next. She said that Kim Chong-suk University of Education, which was wonderfully erected amid our party's benevolent love, has positively struggled to give priority to educating the youth and students to be chuche-type revolutionary intellectuals who are endlessly loyal and boundlessly filial to the party and the leader and to endlessly improving the content and methods of education. She went on to say:

[Begin Yim recording] Last year, the university strengthened visual-aid education by using video recorders, computers, [word indistinct], automatic slide projectors, and other modern educational equipment and visual aids, which were provided as a result of our party's favor, and also strengthened education with visual aids. To give biology lectures on how [words indistinct], wild greens growing on Mt. Paektu, where there are immortal historical revolutionary sites of the great leader, grow and on how to artificially raise them, the university provided scores of visual aids and specimens after climbing up and down the mountain on many occasions in the spring, summer, fall, and winter. It also provided 56,000 modern visual aids and samples. These visual aids and samples are filled with the noble efforts of the teachers and officials of our university for the education of the future generations. In providing these visual aids and samples, the teachers took to heart loyalty to the great leader and the party as their firm belief.

The teachers also positively worked hard to improve themselves academically. Last year alone, they completed 18 dissertations for degrees and presented them for state examination. Numerous teachers and officials were awarded degrees and academic positions.

Education was strengthened in loyalty and filial devotion to the party and the leader. As a result, the university students have come to have a strong revolutionary view toward the leader and to thoroughly display the lofty virtue of thinking and acting according to the party's ideas and intentions anytime, anywhere and being loyal and devoted to our party to the end.

Upholding the slogan of giving priority to studying, a slogan presented by the party, all the students conducted the loyalty campaign to study to improve their academic degrees. As a result, the ratio of students with distinguished honors and honors increased to 92.7 percent last year. Also, in response to the party's policy of giving theoretical and practical education and closely linking education to working to produce goods, all the university students who have participated in the campaign to build 1,000 chongbo [one chongbo equals about 10,000 square meters] of vaccinium uliginosum [tuljjuk] fields on Mt. Paektu, which the great leader presented during his on-the-spot instruction in Yanggang Province, had the honor of receiving thanks from the party center by vigorously waging the campaign with a high sense of loyalty.

During vacations, the university students went among the working class, carried out social and political activities, and extended assistance in the form of labor, a laudable custom. Also, the teachers and officials and students of the university well maintained plants for education and bases for repairs and made and repaired numerous devices for experiments, teaching materials, and furniture. They also managed the university and saved 13.6 percent of the university budget.

The university has so far had the honor of receiving the great leader's citations three times; thanks from the great leader and the party center four times; a congratulatory letter in the joint name of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and the Government of the Republic two times; and the Order of National Flag First Class.

All of our achievements are the brilliant result of the wise leadership of the great leader and our party, that presented the chuche-oriented educational program, that gave Kim Chong-suk University of Education the heavy task of raising many revolutionaries endlessly loyal to the party and the leader like Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, that gave the university a valuable lesson on 35 occasions in recent years alone, and that has led the university to carry out its activities. [applause]

Even though grand-scale economic construction must be carried out this year, the government of the Republic again foresee the allocation of more money for educational work than last year. We will bring about new turning points in educational work by efficiently spending state funds allocated by our party and the government of the Republic for the education of the future generations and by thoroughly carrying out the tasks presented in the theses on socialist education, the great leader's immortal classic work, and the dear comrade leader's historic document "On Further Developing Educational Work."

This year, we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the naming of our university after the honored name of Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an anti-Japanese woman hero, thanks to the great leader's profound trust and favors and the 30th anniversary of the university's founding. By giving priority to and deepening and developing the work of educating the teachers and officials and students to be those with boundlessly loyal and devotedly filial to the party and the leader, we will raise them to be genuine loyalists and very filial sons who are boundlessly loyal and filial to the party and the leader.

Also, by vigorously waging the campaign to improve the quality of the teachers and officials, the university will have 23 more people who have degrees and academic positions, including four doctors, this year and will increase the ranks of first-class and second-class teachers. Also, by heightening the sense of responsibility among the teachers, the university will continuously and vigorously carry out the work of improving the content and methods of education. In this way, the university will have more exemplary teachers, and, as a result, 80 percent of the teachers will be exemplary teachers. The university will also lead the teachers to strengthen the use of educational materials; will lead the students to study in a revolutionary manner, thus increasing the ranks of students with distinguished honors and honors to more than 96 percent of the students; and will increase the ranks of (?doctors) and junior doctors.

We will deepen scientific research at the Mt. Paektu Research Institute, including research on revolutionary sites around Mt. Paektu and environmental protection, and will carry out state-assigned tasks without fail. By efficiently using educational funds allocated by the state again this year, we will consolidate the materialistic and technological basis of the university, will well preserve the buildings and furniture filled with the benevolent favors of the great leader and the party, and will manage the university well, thus saving 14 percent of the university budget. I express my strong resolve to thoroughly implement the party's policy of raising the teachers and officials and students of the university into chuche-type revolutionary intellectuals and our party's eternal companions, loyalists, and filial sons who, like party members at the Second Cell of the Fifth Bureau of the Korean Central News Agency and like poets at the Korean Literary Production Company, are resolutely struggling to complete the chuche revolutionary cause under the party's leadership, and make Kim Chong-suk University of Education an exemplary university among the universities of the country. [applause] [end recording]

Speaking next was Deputy Kim Won-tu.

[Begin Kim Won-tu recording] Comrade deputies: I acknowledge that the state budget which has been submitted for SPA deliberation is precisely compiled to thoroughly implement the militant tasks set forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year's address so as to further develop the rural economy and highly exalt the superiority of the socialism of our country, and fully support and approve of it. [applause]

Last year the government of the republic allocated a huge state fund, 6 percent higher than that of the previous year, for the rural economic sector to actively push ahead with the industrialization and modernization of agriculture and built, within a short period of time, the 2,000-ri waterway to boost the irrigation of rural areas onto a higher level, thereby achieving the cataclysmic change of making all the paddies and fields in the rich grain district of the western region overflow with the irrigated water that never dries up, giving satisfactory financial support so that we could attain the grain target put forth by the party.

In our Chaeryong County, South Hwanghae Province, with a large amount of state fund last year, we carried out the waterway project and dry-field irrigation projects aimed at effectively utilizing the water from the Sohae Lockgate and the Taedong River and satisfactorily resolved the water problem. With modern farm machines, chemical fertilizers, and various other agricultural supplies made available in large quantities, we accelerated the general mechanization and scientization of the rural economy and attained great advances in the work of completing the rural thesis.

The great leader, despite his busy schedule of state affairs, visited our Chaeryong County no less than 34 times and taught us that because many years have passed since the land of (Namuri) field of Chaeryong was reclaimed, its soil is not fertile enough, therefore, the most important way to increase grain production is, more than anything else, to plow the paddies and fields deeply, to spread new soil, to choose and sow good seeds suitable for the soil, and to establish a scientific system of fertilization.

The great leader, who created the chuche-oriented agricultural guidance system of our own style and who always gives deep attention to the development of the rural economy of the country, took a benevolent step of sending us hundreds of tractors, hundreds of trucks, rice seedling planting machines, and other modern farm machines and many agricultural supplies for the farming of Chaeryong County. Upholding the lofty will of the great leader who is taking so much care for the development of rural economy, we made it our major task to plan and coordinate the enterprise guidance for the rural economy in conformity with the basic task of the management of the county cooperative farms and waged a vigorous struggle to realize it. We mobilized the force of agricultural technology of the county in conformity with the realistic demand in which the agricultural production process has been turned into a technological process, and ensured that scientific technological guidance was given to the entire process of agriculture based on our specific understanding and grasp of the soil condition, the climate condition, crop layout, and the crop raising data of the farming land of 16,450 chongbo in the county.

In the management of the county cooperative farms, we conducted the technological guidance to agricultural production always going down to the cooperative farms, work teams, and sub-work teams, combining our strength and wisdom with the farm workers. Receiving the militant tasks on conducting as a mass campaign the spreading of new soil in paddies and dry-fields to enhance the fertility of the cultivated land which was put forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song last year, we aroused them so that they could launch themselves with an attitude befitting a master into the soil-spreading campaign with firm faith and resolve "What the party decides, we will do." With the participation of the entire county, we spread red soil and slime over the sandy and gravelly fields and coal ash and humus over muddy fields according to the chuche agricultural method, overcoming the unprecedented bitter cold and snowstorms, and attained success, rapidly completing the sand-spreading in fields for 2,720 chongbo by the end of February.

We also put major emphasis on the technological guidance to effectively use fertilizer scientifically and technologically in conformity with the demand of the chuche agricultural method. To ensure the maximum effect of fertilizer, we established specific fertilizer giving plan based on the analysis of the soil already available at the cooperative farms, supplied the fertilizer precisely according to it, conducted technological training sessions for the chief technicians of the cooperative farms and the technicians of the work teams, and ensured that they manage the fertilizer effectively with a high sense of responsibility. [end recording]

The speaker continued and said that they will further intensify the enterprise guidance according to the demand of the chuche agricultural guidance system, actively realize the state's material and technological assistance for the cooperative economy, and do the farming scientifically and technologically according to the chuche agricultural method, so that they can fulfill without fail the grain production target set for the county for this year.

In the next discussion, Deputy Kim Taek-su said that, under the wise leadership of the great leader and dear leader comrade, last year Kumgang County normalized the production of local industry plants by positively mobilizing and utilizing all local reserves and potentials and further developed livestock farming. He also said that Kumgang County provided its residents with various foodstuffs and daily necessities as well as increased its financial revenues. He went on to say as follows:

[Begin Kim recording] In recent years, in the county we built a 6,000-ton capacity cement plant per year, a 10,000-ton capacity slacked lime plant, a brick plant, and an underground plant. We built [word indistinct] plant, [word indistinct] plant, a new production facility with a plottage of 30,000 square meters, and extended their capability. In addition, we built modern schools, hospitals, and service facilities. We have built approximately 1,300 new housing units in the county. Last year alone, we brilliantly built approximately 200 two- or three-room housing units for residents.

In hearty response to the teachings of the great leader and dear leader comrade about properly managing Kumgang County and about improving the people's life more affluently, we built meticulous and useful public buildings and housings.

In addition, we carried out bank revetments with a plottage of 260,000 cubic meters; [word indistinct] construction with the plottage of approximately 42,000 square meters; and approximately 50,500 [word indistinct] constructions. We built approximately 3,300 warehouses by use of [word indistinct], and approximately 120 pleasure resorts for children. We completed the construction of arranging 105-km of roads and of paving the boulevards of the county.

By so doing, our county, which had been a secluded mountainous locale in the past, in the era of the WPK has now been turned into a county filled with modern housing, public buildings, and local general plants. Its streets and villages are clean and well arranged. Thus, the affluent and cultural socialist life of the people further comes into bloom against the beautiful scenery of Mt. Kumgang. Thus, our county has changed into a county favorable to live in.

Such changes taking place in our Kumgang County are entirely the result of the wise leadership and great consideration of the great leader who has put forward the local budget system—the most superior socialist budget system in the world—and has warmly led us to develop locales by properly executing local budget systems in keeping with the specific condition of a local village. [applause]

Dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il highly evaluated that on the whole Kumgang County has smoothly settled issues concerning meat, farming functions, and soap—all of which are urgently needed for people's life—and has properly carried out the county's economy. He bestowed considerate love and consideration on us, including thank-you notes on two occasions last year alone. [applause]

All functionaries and working people in our county, who received considerate love and consideration from the great leader and dear leader comrade, should uphold the wise leadership of the party and the leader and should more properly manage the local economy by more thoroughly carrying out the local budget system. In addition, they are brimming over with the fiery resolution to more highly display the superiority of our country's socialism founded by the great leader.

Comrade deputies!

The local budget system, which the guidance functionaries of local administration should responsibly carry out, is the superior budget system. This system is operated on the basis of the state central planned guidance and on the basis of the sense of local responsibility and creative spirit.

Dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: To develop the local budget system, which is a basic of the local budget system, the functions and roles of the county should be enhanced.

The county is a (?unit) of a local and a general unit of cultural development. The county is also a basic unit of carrying out the local economy.

With the sense of high responsibility as a functionary who is in charge of carrying out local economy, I will more thoroughly carry out our party's local budget system. By so doing, I will positively increase the revenues of the local budget and raise the people's lives onto a higher level.

Bearing in mind that the issue of carrying out the line and policy of the party, and the issue of improving the people's lives, entirely depends upon the local functionaries, I, in hearty response to the party's slogan "Serve the people," will deeply go down into the popular masses, share life and death and weals and woes with them, and always stand in the van to vigorously lead the masses to carry out the party's policy. By so doing, I will resolutely and loyally fulfill the high trust and expectations of the leader and our party which assign the economy of a county to us. [applause] [end recording]

Deputy Kang Hyong-mo participated in the debates next.

[Begin Kang recording] Deputy comrades: Recognizing that the state budgets for 1991, which have been presented to the current session for deliberation, were correctly mapped out to ensure that major tasks in socialist economic construction are thoroughly carried out this year in order to normalize production on a high level and in order to improve the people's materialistic and cultural standard of living in compliance with socialist demands by firmly giving priority to key sectors of the people's economy and efficiently utilizing the existing economic basis, and that the country's defense capabilities are further strengthened, I fully support and approve of the budgets. [applause]

Last year, the Government of the Republic spent a lot of money to develop the electronic and automation industries in step with the demand of the era of the technological revolution. In this way, the materialistic and technological basis of the country's electronic and automation industries has been further consolidated, and great progress has been made in developing technology for the electronic and automation industries.

Thanks to state investment, our 5 October Automation General Plant expanded its production capacities and successfully carried out approximately 660 projects for technological innovations. In this way, it increased the production of automation elements and equipment. As a result, it brought about the proud achievement of overfulfilling the people's economic plan by 12.5 percent and of overfulfilling the plan for payment into the state treasury by 8.3 percent.

All of these achievements of ours are the result of the wise leadership of the great leader, who personally selected the site of the plant and who brightened the plant's future path at every stage of socialist construction, and of the energetic guidance of our party. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song earlier attached great significance to developing the country's automation industries. Even at the time after the war when he was building our plant on an empty site, he foresaw the advent of the new era of automation and built modern automation facilities and bases for producing parts [word indistinct]. He gave our plant on-the-spot guidance on eight occasions and programmatic instructions on scores of occasions, thus brilliantly brightening the plant's future path.

Out of a single desire for loyalty in order to send more profits to the country by normalizing production, thus increasing the production of automation equipment and components and improving their quality—in hearty response to the New Year's address by the great leader and the decision at the 17th Plenary Session of the 6th Party Central Committee—the working class of our plant, which has produced a reliable automation-industry base amid great considerations and favors by the great leader and our party, has waged a struggle to produce more and to save more since early last year.

Taking to heart the teachings of the great leader that reserves are found in the hearts of the masses, we went among the peasants and technicians to positively carry out the work of finding and mobilizing reserves for increasing production and saving, and we arranged an exhibition at the enterprise to display suggestions. Approximately 1,500 suggestions of various sorts were displayed at the exhibition. Upon seeing this exhibition, the employees realized that reserves for increasing production and savings are found nearby and in their hearts, and that anyone can find reserves if he, conscious that he is the master of the country's economic management, resolutely tries to.

We correctly organized and mobilized the producer-masses to continuously conduct the campaign to find reserves for increasing production and savings, and at the same time we carried out the economic organizational work of using reserves, which have been found, in production. We organized [words indistinct] work teams [words indistinct] and generalized experiences from this. We also [words indistinct] once every ten days and [words indistinct].

After understanding the status of how reserves are mobilized in our plant, the great leader highly praised our plant for having found much reserves in a short period of time and took benevolent measures to generalize experiences from this work. Inspired by the great leader's boundless trust and favors, the working class of our plant more vigorously conducted the movement to mobilize reserves as a popular movement, linking this movement to the movement to [words indistinct].

The workers and technicians of the Charyokkaensaeng [self-reliance] Work Team, the great leader personally named, [words indistinct], effected various technological innovations, and normalized production on a high level, even while saving much electricity, anthracite coal, and non-ferrous metals. [end recording]

He also expressed his resolve to deeply realize the position and mission of the plant in developing the country's automation industries, to normalize production on a high level, and to mass produce automation equipment and electric daily necessities, thus more highly displaying the superiority of the state budget of our country.

The session discussed the second agenda "On Approving Laws Discussed and Decided Upon by the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] During Its Recess." Deputy Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the SPA, delivered a report on the agenda.

[Begin Yang recording] According to Clause 87 of the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK, during the period from the first session to the second session of the Ninth SPA, the Standing Committee of the SPA discussed and decided on the Civil Law and the Family Law of the DPRK.

Deeply perceiving how important the work of adopting laws is, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song provided legal norms in various fields and wisely led the work of adopting new legal norms and regulations as well as further completing existing legal norms and regulations. Our party presented the policy of newly adopting the Civil Law and the Family Law, and carefully led the work of completing these laws according to the basic demands of socialism.

The Civil Law and the Family Law of the DPRK, which have been presented at this session for discussion, were coded under the party's careful supervision after further completing existing legal systems concerning civil affairs and family affairs in compliance with the realistic demand for the development of socialist society. [end recording]

He went on to say that the basic goal of the Civil Law of the DPRK, which was newly adopted this time, is to consolidate the socialist economic system in our country and the materialistic and technological basis of socialism, as well as to provide the people with independent and creative lives, and that the basic mission of the Family Law of the Republic is to further consolidate and develop the socialist-style marriage and family systems to turn the entire society into a grand harmonious and united socialist family. He went on to say:

[Begin Yang recording] The new adoption of the Civil Law and the Family Law is very important in further consolidating and developing our country's socialist system, protecting the people's rights and interests, and completing the socialist legal system. The Civil Law and the Family Law of the DPRK were adopted at the Standing Committee of the SPA after a discussion at the SPA Bills Committee. The Standing Committee of the SPA presents the Civil Law and the Family Law of the DPRK, which it discussed and decided on during the recess of the SPA according to Clause 87 of the Socialist Constitution, to this session of the SPA for an approval. [end recording]

The session adopted with the unanimous approval of the deputies the bills "On the Approval of 'On the Adoption of the Civil Law of the DPRK,' a decision of the Standing Committee of the SPA" and "On the Approval of 'On the Adoption of the Family Law of the DPRK,' a decision of the Standing Committee of the SPA."

This has been a report on the second day afternoon sitting of the second session of the Ninth SPA of the DPRK.

The session is in progress.

People's Delegations Visit Military Units

*SK2604044791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0433 GMT 26 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 26 (KCNA)—People's delegations consisting of workers, peasants and working intellectuals called at units of the three services of the Korean People's Army on the occasion of the 59th founding anniversary of the heroic Korean People's Army (KPA), the revolutionary armed forces of our party.

People's army soldiers significantly greeting the day of the building of army warmly welcomed the people's delegations calling on them with warm kindred feelings.

Meetings were held at the units of the three services of the KPA to convey gifts sent by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the KPA units on the 59th founding anniversary of the heroic Korean People's Army.

The heads of the people's delegations handed the gifts at the meetings.

They participated in colorful functions held in the units to congratulate soldiers on the day and inspired them to perform new feats, displaying the traditional spirit of the unity between the Army and the people.

Meanwhile, artistes from the capital and local cities congratulated the soldiers, making a performance tour of units of the KPA.

Book on Kim Il-song Printed in Other Languages

*SK2504103391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1010 GMT 25 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 25 (KCNA)—The Foreign Languages Press Group published the book "In the Embrace of My Motherland" in foreign languages.

It was written by the late Choe Tok-sin who was once "foreign minister" of South Korea, commander of an army corps of the South Korean Army, leader of the central headquarters of Chondoism, chairman of the Paedal National Council and then chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party and vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland.

The book consists of foreword, postscript and 15 chapters including "The Embrace in Which I Am Held," "I Was Born Again," "A Legend of the 20th Century," "The Spirit of National Independence," "Favours Never To Be Forgotten" and "The Light of Chuche."

In the foreword, Choe Tok-sin describes the embrace of the respected leader President Kim Il-song as the embrace of the great motherland, saying that his two years in the DPRK is of exceptional significance for him, not as a mere extension of his life, which was already in its twilight, but as the beginning of a new life. He writes what he witnessed and felt in scores of years of his wandering life, his new notion of the motherland and the building of his new life.

In the postscript, he says that although he is not an able historian or a writer, he will be deeply grateful to the readers if they understand how he felt in praising President Kim Il-song, the greatest of great persons.

Yongsong Machine 'Bureau' Produces Equipment

*SK2504154191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1512 GMT 25 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 25 (KCNA)—The Yongsong General Machine Bureau of Korea is hastening the production of ordered equipment.

The workers of the Bureau recently produced over 80 units of equipment and apparatuses of 20 odd kinds including a 50,000 cubic metre centrifugal ventilator, 40,000 cubic metre and 12,500 cubic metre centrifugal compressors.

They are ordered equipment intended for the construction of the Sariwon potassic fertilizer complex.

The Bureau had already produced a 10,000 ton press and other big and small units of ordered equipment.

KCNA Review of 27 Apr Pyongyang Press

*SK2704061391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0529 GMT 27 Apr 91*

[Press Review]

[Text] Pyongyang April 27 (KCNA)—Dailies here today frontpage a photo-accompanied report that the great leader President Kim Il-song visited unit 499 of the Korean People's Army [KPA] to congratulate the officers and men of the KPA on the 59th founding anniversary of the KPA and a photograph he, accompanied by the members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, posed for with officers and men of the unit.

Carried in the press is a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to President Joseph Saidu Momoh on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the independence of Sierra Leone and a message sent by President Kim Il-song to President Sam Nujoma in reply to his solidarity message supporting our new proposal for national reunification.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers of colourful functions held in different countries on the occasion of April 15.

MINJU CHOSON carries the first installment of an article on the great trust and love shown by President Kim Il-song for Yim Chun-chu who was a veteran revolutionary and vice-president of the DPRK.

NODONG SINMUN conveys world public voices under the title "Comrade Kim Chong-il Is the Lodestar of the Times of Independence That Rose in Korea."

Dailies give accounts of a ceremony for the completion of the Sinsong reservoir which will contribute to the consolidation of the potential of the great ring-shape irrigation system formed in the west coast area of South Pyongan Province and of innovations effected in the production of consumer goods.

A DPRK Government delegation led by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok left here to visit Vietnam, Laos and India, according to the press.

Dailies deal with the talks held here between delegations of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and the National Assembly of People's Power of the Republic of Cuba.

Li Peng, premier of the State Council of China, met the head of the DPRK delegation which participated in the 12th Conference of Asian and Pacific Labour Ministers, according to the press.

Dailies report about the arrival in Pyongyang of delegations to participate in the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Conference.

NODONG SINMUN carries a commentator's article headlined "'One- Act Drama' in Cheju Island" denouncing the "South Korean-Soviet summit talks".

Papers report that the boys and girls of the Unified Korea team defeated Sweden, Nigeria and Japan in the team event at the 41st World Table Tennis Championships on April 26.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets continued staging war exercises against the North and the South Korean puppets perpetrated a military provocation by introducing a helicopter in the Demilitarized Zone in the eastern sector of the front.

The paper denounces the South Korean authorities for trying to maintain the "National Security Law" and other anti-communist fascist laws.

MINJU CHOSON carries an article on the arms buildup of the South Korean puppets.

The International Committee of Jurists for Democracy and Human Rights in South Korea and Foreign Countries condemned the new war provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities, says NODONG SINMUN.

The British paper the NEW WORKER published an article saying that no one should have an illusion about the South Korean economy, an "export-oriented" dependent economy, reports the paper.

It is reported in papers that Comrades Jiang Zemin, Deng Xiaoping, Yang Shangkun and Li Peng wrote autographs to the "model eighth company of Nanjinglu" calling for continuously displaying the revolutionary spirit of hard work, the Namibian president urged South Africa to return the occupied territory and the 30th anniversary of the formation of the Eastern Army of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces was celebrated.

NODONG SINMUN reports that a joint plenary meeting of the Central Committee and the Central Control Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union was held, TASS denounced NATO's attempt to organize "quick reaction" force and the eighth Sino-Soviet border working talks were held.

It is reported in the paper that foreign mass media denounced Gorbachev's visit to South Korea as an act obstructing Korea's reunification, Gorbachev's proposal for establishing an Asian-Pacific security system was criticised in different countries and the number of women criminals is increasing in the Soviet Union and the number of jobless people jumped in Poland.

Papers observe the 30th anniversary of the independence of Sierra Leone.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article on the corruption of the U.S. society.

KCNA Review of 29 Apr NODONG SINMUN

SK2904061891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0530 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

[Text] Pyongyang April 29 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN here today frontpages a photo-illustrated report that the great leader President Kim Il-song received the delegation of the National Assembly of People's Power of the Republic of Cuba. The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the delegation, says the paper.

Printed in the paper are messages of greetings to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent by foreign party and state leaders and an account of celebrations held in different countries on the occasion of his 79th birthday.

The paper carries news that the Nicaraguan paper EL NUEVO DIARIO reported part of national reunification from the immortal classic work of President Kim Il-song "Let Us Bring the Advantages of Socialism in Our Country Into Full Play".

Under the title "The Great Leader President Kim Il-song Is the Ever-Victorious, Iron-Willed Brilliant Commander and the Great Man of the Revolution and Construction" the paper gives an account of KCNA correspondent's interview with member of the Supreme Council of Revolution of Madagascar Boanoro Victor Henry.

The paper carries an article dealing with the underground political operations Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, conducted to rally the popular masses of all walks of life around the great General Kim Il-song during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

The paper comes out with an editorial article hailing the 85th conference of the Interparliamentary Union which opens here today.

Given in the paper is news that memorial stamps for the 85th Interparliamentary Conference were issued, parliamentarians of the North and South met and a meeting of women parliamentarians from different countries was held in Pyongyang.

Econews of the paper includes a report about the production of an eight axle electric locomotive 7,000 hp.

Celebrations of the 59th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army were held in foreign countries, says the paper.

The paper reports that the newly-appointed DPRK ambassador presented his credentials to the president of Singapore, the DPRK ambassador paid a farewell call on the president of Central Africa and an agreement on trade and economic cooperation between the DPRK and the Soviet Union was signed here.

The paper informs the readers that girls of the unified Korea table tennis team advanced into the finals of team event and boys into the quarter-finals at the 41st World Table Tennis Championships.

The paper devotes much space to condemning the South Korean authorities for beating to death by iron clubs student Kang Kyong-tae of Myongji University in Seoul during a peaceful demonstration at university town on April 26. It carries a joint statement published by the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea and the Korean Student Committee and news that the spokesman for the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) issued a statement, a meeting denouncing the brutal murder of student Kang Kyong-tae was held in Seoul by some 10,000 students, more than 20,000 students held meetings and demonstrations throughout South Korea and South Korean people rose up in the struggle.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets continuously committed provocative military exercises against the North, says the paper.

The paper introduces an article captioned "My Experience in Korea" by Aarons Moss, director of the Greenwich Village Coalition Affiliated With Sane-Treeze, who had participated in the seminar of Korea-U.S. anti-war, anti-nuclear organisations and community activists on peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula held here in September last year.

Under the headline "South Korean Students Burn Photographs of Gorbachev and No Tae-u and U.S. Flag" the paper informs the readers that foreign news media reported about the struggle of South Korean students and people against Gorbachev's South Korean trip.

Foreign news columns of the paper include reports that book on President Ho Chi Minh was off the press in Vietnam, the 12th conference of ministers of labour from Asia-Pacific countries was held in Beijing and the president of Kenya called for economic cooperation of African countries.

"Threat From the South Grows on the Korean Peninsula" is the title of a NODONG SINMUN article.

South Korea

Seoul To Apply for Unilateral UN Entry in Aug

SK2904080691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0757 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] New York, April 29 (YONHAP)—South Korea has reaffirmed that it will complete all the preparations necessary to apply for membership of the United Nations by early August, a well- placed Korean Government official said Monday.

"The government has decided to finish preparations by early August so that everything goes well at the opening of the 46th U.N. General Assembly Sept. 17," he said on condition of anonymity.

The Security Council must review an application 35 days prior to the General Assembly and submit its recommendation on the applicant to the General Assambly 25 days before its opening.

For Korea to have its application on the agenda, it must give it to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez De Cuellar by Aug. 12.

"It is difficult to say the government seeks to apply in July or August. Should conditions mature enough in favor of our entry, the application can be made earlier than scheduled. That is the government's principle," he said.

On the possibility that China might veto solo entry by Korea, he said China was well aware that Korea postponed its application last year in consideration of China's relations with North Korea and it seemed unlikely China would repeat the request.

North Official Hints at Resumption of Talks

SK2704110791 Seoul YONHAP in English 1025 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang, North Korea, April 27 (YONHAP)—A senior North Korean official on Saturday hinted at

Pyongyang's willingness to resume the stalled inter-Korean parliamentary and high-level talks in the not too distant future.

Chon Kum-chol, vice chairman of the (North Korean) Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Fatherland, said, "(we) should resume the talks soon," but did not elaborate.

He made the remarks while chatting with Rep. Pak Chong-su, and other South Korean delegates to the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) meeting about the inter-Korean dialogue which has been suspended all through this year by North Korea as a show of its indignation over South Korea-U.S. joint "Team Spirit" military exercises.

Chon was receiving the South Korean IPU deleages at Chuamsan Guest House upon their arrival after an overland, cross-border journey from Seoul.

When pressed by South Korean journalists to reveal whether the North Korean side was ready to give the final touch to the issue of resuming the inter-Korean parliamentary talks during the South Korean IPU delegation's stay here, Chon said, "(let's) wait and see what happens." Chon used to head the North Korean delegation to the preliminary contact for the inter-Korean parliamentary talks.

Meanwhile, the 12 South Korean lawmakers, their aides and accompanying journalists checked in at Chuamsan Guest House upon their arrival here. The official delegates registered at the IPU meeting secretariat at People's Palace of Culture, the venue of the 85th IPU general meeting slated for April 29-May 4.

On the first day of their visit, the South Koreans were coolly accepted by the North koreans. A sense of deep indifference was pervading all places they passed on their journey to the North. There were rather few welcomers on the streets here and the people seldom paid attention to the visiting southerners.

A North Korean official said, when asked of the frigid welcome on the streets, "the people here are now in ill humor after South Korean defense minister Yi Chong-ku threatened to stage a commando attack against North Korean reactors."

The 25-man group of South Korean visitors saw a documentary film, titled "The Looks of Pyongyang," at their guest house and then a circus at Pyongyang Acrobatic Theater.

The South Koreans are to attend a dinner to be hosted by Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the North Korean Supreme People's Assembly Reunification Policy Committee, later in the evening.

IPU Delegation Departs for North Via Panmunjom

SK2704024791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0227 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 27 (OANA-YONHAP)—Twelve South Korean lawmakers crossed into North Korea Saturday morning to attend a session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Pyongyang.

The delegates were to travel by car and bus to Kaesong, where they would board a train that was scheduled to arrive in the North Korean capital at 2 P.M.

The 25-member delegation, led by ruling party assemblyman Pak Chong-su, will stay eight nights in Pyongyang and hold series of contacts with officials there during the IPU session.

They may have a separate meeting with North Korean President Kim Il-song, although it is not included in the official itinerary. It is the first meeting of lawmakers of the two sides since the country was divided at the end of World War II.

The delegates, issuing a statement upon arrival at the truce village of Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone separating South and North Korea, called their visit meaningful in Korea's history of national division.

"We hope to talk freely with North Korean officials about ways to widen our understanding of North Korea and inch closer toward unification through inter-Korean cooperation and exchange," Pak said, reading the statement.

"This visit will hopefully expedite the ongoing exchanges in various sectors and open the way to free cross-border visits by dispersed families," he said.

They carry a personal letter from National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu to his North Korean counterpart, Yang Hyong-sop, calling for the two sides to resume talks on exchange visits by lawmakers.

The two sides will present their views on one of the key items on the agenda of the IPU session, nuclear disarmament and military confidence-building. Bilateral contacts will deal with reopening the suspended inter-Korean prime ministers' talks, U.N. membership and national reunification policies, officials here said.

The itinerary includes a dinner with North Korean officials and a tour of Mt. Kumgang. The visitors will return May 5, the day after the IPU meeting closes.

The lawmakers are Pak, Chae Mun-sik, To Yong-sim, Chong Chae-mun, Kim Yong-tae, Kim Hyon-uk and Pak Kwan-yong of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, Pak Yong-suk, Cho Sun-sung, Cho Se-hyong, Kim Won-ki of the main opposition New Democratic Union, and Kim Kwang-il of the splinter Democratic Party.

Delegates' Activities Reported

SK2904023891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0150 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 (YONHAP)—South Korean lawmakers attended religious ceremonies and toured cultural and youth palaces on their second day in the North Korean capital Sunday amid subdued publicity.

Their passage through the truce village of Panmunjom and trip to Pyongyang the day before had received minimal coverage in the North Korean media. The South Koreans were listed last of the 17 delegations arriving that day to attend the 85th meeting of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU).

The 12 lawmakers began their Sunday by visiting Christian churches and Buddhist temples.

Reps. Kim Hyon-uk and Pak Kwan-yong attended mass at one of the largest Roman Catholic churches in North Korea, Changchung Cathedral. Kim delivered a message from Cardinal Stephen Kim So-hwan, head of the Catholic Church in South Korea, that said he was always praying for his brethren in the North.

The first time a South Korean attended mass at the church was when student activist Yim Su-kyong and the Rev. Mun Kyu-hyon secretly visited Pyongyang in 1989.

"Wherever we may be, we hope to share brotherly love," Kim told the 100-member congregation after the mass. "May God bless every one of you."

Soft sobbing was heard among the listeners. One woman was in tears as she shook hands with the South Korean visitors and said she dearly wished to meet with Cardinal Kim.

Never far from the surface, politics seeped into the church after mass. Chang Chae-chol, Central Committee chairman of Pyongyang's Korean Catholic Association, mentioned South Korea's imprisonment of Yim and the Rev. Mun for their clandestine trip.

Kim donated a piano to the church before he left.

South Korean chief delegate Pak Chong-su and three others went to a Protestant service, where they were greeted by Kang Yong-suk, Central Committee chairman of the North Korean Christian Federation.

The Rev. Yi Song-tong liberally spiced his sermon with political comments, bringing up the issues of releasing people jailed in the South for illegally visiting the North and declaring the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone.

Pak also tried to donate a piano to the church, but Yi avoided answering and suggested they talk about it later.

A North Korean guide, asked why there were only about 100 people in the congregation, said the country's youth choose to believe in "great leader" Kim Il-song's "chuche" (self-reliance) ideology rather non-scientific religion.

Reps. Pak Yong-suk and To Yong-sim met with North Korean legislators while the others were worshipping. They were shown the People's Cultural Palace, where the North Korean lawmakers were waiting to discuss one of the IPU agenda items, preventing violence against women and children.

To, noting that she and Pak were the first women to attend an IPU meeting since national division, urged North Korean women to actively participate in international events.

The South Koreans toured a "student palace" in the afternoon and watched performances for about an hour.

Pak Chon-mi, a high school junior, surprised the visitors with her opinion on unification: "South and North Korea and Koreans overseas must unite to lead the way to national unification."

One North Korea guide was apparently in the dark about current inter-Korean developments. When South Korean reporters asked him if he knew about a contract between trading companies of the two sides to swap South Korean rice for North Korean coal and cement, the guide said: "That's impossible. North Korea is self-sufficient in staples. South Korean media reports lack credibility."

The visitors are staying at Chuam Guest House, a secluded resort close to Kim Il-song's residence. Chief delegate Pak is in the room used by Korean Central Intelligence Agency Chief Yi Ho-nak when he visited Pyongyang in 1972.

The lodging arrangements are reportedly making contact with other delegations extremely difficult. An Australian delegate was quoted as saying that when she asked her North Korean guides how she could contact the South Korean delegation, she was told they had not arrived. She was later told they were "deep inside a mountain."

Delegates Hold 'Heated Debate'

SK2904061091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0551 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang, April 29 [illegible]ONHAP)—A dinner for South and North Korean parliamentarians erupted in heated debate Sunday evening in Pyongyang.

Rep. Pak Chong-su of South Korea argued that the North should hold a summit with the South, and Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly Unification Policy Committee, said the South was heightening military confrontation.

Pak is among 12 South Korean lawmakers in the North Korean capital to attend the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) meeting , which opened Monday morning. They were Yun's dinner guests.

The North Koreans unexpectedly proposed informal talks on U.N. membership, a non-aggression pact, inter-Korean dialogue and exchange visits by lawmakers, South Korean delegation officials said later.

Pak proposed the summit, saying nothing was impossible if the presidents of the two sides could agree to hold candid talks on conflicting issues.

The ruling party lawmaker also told his hosts he saw no reason to delay simultaneous U.N. entry by South and North Korea, the officials said.

The South had no intention of attacking the North, Pak said, and Pyongyang would believe this if it did not have intentions against Seoul.

Yun ignored the summit proposal and instead criticized South Korea for demanding international inspection of North Korea's "non-existent" nuclear facilities.

It was nonsense to demand inspection of nuclear facilities that didn't exist, and inspection of South Korea's nuclear weapons and their gradual reduction should precede such demands, Yun said.

The North Korean committee chairman broadly suggested a minor change in Pyongyang's unification policy, which is based on confederacy, saying negotiations were possible on granting wider military and diplomatic powers to autonomous local governments than to the central body.

Yun insisted Korea enter the United Nations as one, saying separate membership would perpetuate the nation's division because the world would recognize two Koreas.

Joint Youth Soccer Team Timetable Finalized

SK2604132691 Seoul YONHAP in English 1248 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 26 (YONHAP)—South and North Korea finalized Friday their timetable for the formation of a single Korean soccer team which will compete in the World Youth Soccer Championships to be opened on June 14 in Portugal.

In a liaison officials' contact at the conference room of the Neutral Nations' Supervisory Commission at the truce village of Panmunjom, the two sides decided to hold the inaugural ceremony of the unified Korean team on May 21 in Seoul and to set up the team's training camp in Portugal.

The unified team, to be led by Chang Chung-sik, vice chairman of the South Korean Olympic Committee, is scheduled to leave for Portugal shortly after the inaugural ceremony.

The two sides exchanged the lists of 70 officials, players and reporters from each side, who are to attend player-selection tryouts and joint trainings in Seoul and Pyongyang, and written guarantees of their safety, a Sports and Youth Ministry official said.

Final entry of the single Korean soccer team will be decided immediately after the second tryout on May 8 in Nunglado May 1 Stadium in Pyongyang and some players and officials of the South Korean team, who will be excluded from the final selection, is slated to return to Seoul on May 9.

For the second tryout match, the South Korean team is to enter Pyongyang through the truce village of Panmunjom on May 6 and to stay at Koryo Hotel in Pyongyang.

The first tryout will be held at Chamsil Stadium in Seoul on May 4 and for the match, the North Korean team will come to Seoul via Panmunjom on May 2 and stay at Sheraton Walkerhill Hotel.

Prior to its departure for Portugal, the single Korean youth soccer team is to go into training both in Seoul and Pyongyang, the official added.

Joint Talks on Hosting Table Tennis Planned

SK2604084791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0824 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Chiba, Japan, April 26 (YONHAP)—South and North Korean table tennis officials agreed Friday to refer the joint hosting of the 1992 Asian table tennis championships to upcoming sports talks.

The officials, in Chiba for the world table tennis championships, agreed to put hosting the Asian championships on the agenda at the inter-Korean sports talks expected in late June or early July, and to notify the Executive Committee of the Asian Table Tennis Union (ATTU) of the results of the talks at its meeting in Manila in July.

ATTU proposed South and North Korea jointly host next year's championships after Bangladesh dropped out in an ATTU Executive Committee meeting Thursday.

Last December, ATTU chose Dacca as the venue for the 11th championships, but the southwest Asian nation returned the event due to financial difficulties.

ATTU has asked South and North Korea to hold ping-pong schools in Seoul and Pyongyang this year and jointly host the Euro-Asian championships in December next year.

Gorbachev's Opinion of Summit Talks Viewed

SK2904085291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0836 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (OANA-YONHAP)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev believes the Seoul-Moscow summit in South Korea elevated friendly ties to a high level and that such warming between the countries will advance unification of the Korean peninsula, a ranking presidential aide said Monday.

Gorbachev, in a report to the Supreme Soviet, recently called Korea a respected country and said it was playing a noteworthy, positive and constructive role in international politics, Kim Chong-in, senior presidential secretary for economic affairs, told President No Tae-u.

Gorbachev stayed one night for summit talks with No on Cheju Island, off the south coast, on April 19 on his way back home from Japan.

Explaining the outcome of his visits to Japan and Korea, Gorbachev said the development of friendly relations with South Korea would promote Korean unification and in the process the Soviet Union would cooperate as much as possible to improve the diplomatic climate, Kim said.

For unification, Gorbachev's report said, what matters is the role taken by South and North Korea and the Soviet proposal for a Seoul-Moscow good neighbourhood, partnership and cooperation agreement fits in with the improvement of the situation on the Korean peninsula.

No solved all the problems arising from the implementation of Korea's offer of 3 billion dollars in aid to the Soviet Union and talks on promotion of bilateral trade and economic cooperation were frank and substantial, it said.

Gorbachev is assured that Korea and the Soviet Union can achieve creative and effective economic cooperation by combining mutually complementary and beneficial fields, Kim said.

"It was the first time the Soviet Union made such an official evaluation about its relationship with South Korea and the Supreme Soviet resolved to take more efforts to improve ties with Korea," a government official said.

"The Kremlin called in North Korean Ambassador Son Song-pil on April 23 and informed him of the results of Gorbachev's summit with No," he also said.

Seoul's 'Independency' in Foreign Policy Viewed

SK2804010591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 Apr 91 p 2

[Report by political editor Chong Un-pong from "News in Review" section: "Independence in Diplomacy Versus Stark Reality]

[Text] "Can Korea Say No?" was roundly tested recently in connection with the summit talks between Presidents No Tae-u and Mikhail Gorbachev.

Meeting with each other for the third time in 10 months, the two leaders may have built a solid relationship as shown by No's prompt acceptance of the proposal made by Gorbachev for an amity treaty.

Caught off guard, the Foreign Ministry hurriedly contacted embassy officials of the United States and Japan to explain and to head of a possible flap in relations with the two traditional allies.

According to the explanation, what Korea has in mind is not a kind of alliance, much less one harboring any military aspects.

In his testimony before the National Assembly, Prime Minister No Chae-pong said the government position is to advance the reciprocal relations to a higher dimension through the treaty if deemed necessary. Any military aspect was out of the question from the start, he added.

Strangely enough, major dailies, which have so vociferously called for "independency" in diplomacy, took a different approach this time.

In editorials, they uniformly warned the government against making haste in concluding the pact with the Soviet Union, being wary of the United States.

It is indisputable that Koreans are given to U.S. influence in almost all aspects of life. American music is played on the radio day in and day out. American TV programs are directly shown on local TV. American pop culture dominates all entertainment programs. Even eating and living patterns are being nibbled at. Of course, such phenomenon is not peculiar to Korea alone.

It is the United States which came to the country's defense during the Korean War in 1950. And it has since supplied foods and other items necessary to build up the country.

Business tycoon Chong Chu-yong, who is one of the most vocal supporters for the government's advance to the Soviet Union, once said, "After all, it is the United States we can rely on."

According to him, it is the United States that provided capital and technology. On top of this, it is the United States that provided markets.

After long dependence on the United States for defense, not a small number of people develop a knee-jerk reaction against the pullout of U.S. troops, shuddering even at the slightest mention of such talk.

When an austerity campaign was kicked off last summer, the United States was fretful, suspecting that it was nothing but a move to stonewall the Korean market against U.S. products.

Backed up by roaring criticism in the administration and Capitol Hills, Ambassador Donald Gregg warned against the move in November last year, citing a statement made by British statesman Lord Palmerston, "Nations have no permanent friends, they have permanent interests."

Expressing a sort of satisfaction with what the Korean authorities have taken since his speech, Gregg said in a gathering of scholars early this month, "The United States and Korea must not take for granted that our relationship for the next 40 years will be as solid as it has [been] for the past 40 years. It will not be, unless we take steps to ensure positive evolution."

Clinching the argument over the proposed amity treaty, President No said in his meeting with political leaders that he will go for the conclusion of the pact, saying in unmistakable terms that it will not harbor military aspects unlike the one between the Soviet Union and North Korea.

Now, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok is on a tour of Japan and the United States to explain the No Gorbachev talks. No himself is preparing to visit the United States to strengthen bilateral cooperation unaffected by his meeting with the Soviet leader.

With the seeming disappearance of the Red menace after the fall of the Cold War structure, big changes in the security landscape involving the Korean peninsula are about to take place.

The impact of the changes, often compared with the tectonic plate shifting its location, will be great, requiring the government to draw the line for its diplomacy in the new world order now in the making after the Gulf War.

Reaction to Student Demonstrator Death Reported

Minister of Home Affairs Resigns

SK2704121091 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1130 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] This is news that just arrived.

The minister of home affairs has just been replaced. Reporter Hong Song-kyu, our correspondent in Chongwadae, is on the phone.

[Begin Hong recording] President No Tae-u, accepting the letter of resignation tendered by Minister of Home Affairs An Ung-mo who today offered to resign to take responsibility for the incident at Myongji University, appointed Yi Sang-yon, senior secretary to President for Petitions and Information, as new Minister of Home Affairs.

President No Tae-u said it was very regrettable that a student was sacrificed in the course of a demonstration that was being suppressed at Myongji University and stressed there should be no such thing as a sacrifice of demonstrating students by the police, and that violent demonstrations on campuses should also disappear at a time when democratization is making progress.

Minister An Ung-mo offered this afternoon to resign from his office, taking political responsibility for the death of student Kang Kyong-tae who was beaten to death yesterday by riot police while taking part in demonstrations at Myongji University.

President No Tae-u sacked then Deputy Premier Yi Sung-yun, Minister of Construction Yi Sang-hui, and Mayor of Seoul Ko Kon on 28 February, when the Suso housing scandal reached a culmination. Last 25 April, he sacked the minister of environment, holding him accountable for two spills of phenol into a river.

Minister An Ung-mo, who was appointed to the office on 19 March last year, has resigned after only one year and two months in office. [end recording]

NDU Leader Asks Cabinet Dismissal

SK2704060991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0506 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 27 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung, angrily denouncing "the killing of a student demonstrator by the police," demanded Saturday that President No Tae-u apologize to the people and dismiss the entire cabinet.

The student was beaten to death by combat police with steel pipes and sticks during a demonstration in front of his school Friday.

Kim also demanded that criminal charges be filed against Home Affairs Minister An Ung-mo.

Kim, head of the main opposition party, the New Democratic Union [NDU], said the incident was "virtually murder" and he felt indignation over the government's disdain for human life and over the inhumanity of the police.

The student's death was not an "accident" but a result of the tyrannical use of "public security forces" that began after the inauguration of Prime Minister No Chae-pong in a cabinet reshuffle on Dec. 27, 1990, Kim charged.

"President No should apologize to the people for the killing committed by the police, who should defend the life and property of the people," Kim said.

Kang Kyong-tae, 20, a Myongji University economics freshman, was pronounced dead on arrival at a hospital near his school in western Seoul minutes after he lost consciousness while being beaten by several plainclothed combat policemen.

The top opposition leader urged No to fire his prime minister and the rest of the cabinet, and form a "democratic cabinet."

An had encouraged the police to use guns and violence to squelch protests and should be punished, Kim said.

He demanded that No assure him such police violence would not recur and stop using plainclothed policemen to break up protests.

Witnesses said Kang was caught while struggling to climb into his campus over a school wall and brutally beaten.

Kim suggested that the ruling and opposition parties form a joint team to investigate Kang's death and that the National Assembly convene a plenary session Monday to discuss ways to prevent similar incidents in the future.

The NDU formed an emergency task force to handle the incident.

Death or injury during demonstrations are not new, but it was the first time the police beat a student to death in a broad daylight. Yi Han-yol, also a Seoul student, died after he was hit in the head by a misaimed tear-gas shell in 1987.

Parties To Investigate Death

SK2704075191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0714 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 27 (YONHAP)—The ruling and opposition parties agreed Saturday to form a joint team to investigate the death of a student who was beaten with iron bars by riot policemen during a protest Friday.

President No Tae-u's Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and Kim Tae-chung's New Democratic Union [NDU] differed, however, on whether to extend the on-going National Assembly sitting. The NDU proposed prolonging the session and the DLP opposed it.

The death of Kang Kyong-tae, a freshman at Myungji University in Seoul, was the overriding theme during interpellation of the administration Saturday and is sure to overwhelm the meetings of assembly special committees when they open Monday.

In a meeting presided over by DLP Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam and attended by Home Minister An Ung-mo, party big-wigs agreed Saturday they had to calm the unrest triggered by Kang's death as quickly as possible.

They also agreed to ask the law-enforcement authorities to make clear the circumstances of Friday's clash between Myungji students and riot police, and to demand that all responsible persons be punished.

Kang was beaten by a group of riot policemen while protesting outside his campus in western Seoul for the release of the Myungji Student Council president, who was arrested on Thursday. Kang was declared dead upon arrival at a nearby hospital.

"We earnestly apologize to the people for this tragic incident. We will demand that the government thoroughly investigate this case and take stern punitive measures against the responsible people," DLP Spokesman Pak Hui-tae said after the meeting.

He did not say how many people the party would hold responsible.

In a news conference in the morning, Kim Tae-chung called on No to fire his entire cabinet.

An said he had ordered the prosecution to look into the killing "for objectivity's sake."

Three people, including the superintendent of the police station involved, were suspended and four of the policemen who beat the student would be put under arrest shortly.

The NDU formed an eight-member emergency committee to examine the incident under Yi U-chong, senior Supreme Council member.

The splinter Democratic Party [DP] also formed a committee on Kang's death. DP President Yi Ki-taek asked No to make an official apology, dismiss his cabinet and arrest the officials involved in the student's death.

The Minjung Party created a probe team Friday night and staged a demonstration in front of metropolitan police headquarters in downtown Seoul on Saturday.

Four Riot Policemen Arrested

SK2804003091 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 28 Apr 91 p 3

[Text] Four riot policemen face arrest on charges of battering a Seoul college student to death with steel pipes when he was caught during a demonstration in front of his campus in western Seoul Friday afternoon.

The prosecution decided to formally arrest the policemen today, charging them with inflicting fatal injuries on Kang Kyong-tae, a Myongji University economics freshman, which led to his death.

The four are Cpls. Kim Yong-sun, Chang Kwang-chu, Yim Chon-sun and Pfc. Yi Hyong-yong, all assigned to the Seoul Metropolitan Police Bureau's fourth mobile squad 94th company and third platoon.

The Seoul District Prosecutor's Office Sobu (west) branch, investigating Kang's death, obtained a court-issued writ for searching the body of the dead student activist, and persuaded Kang's family and students, who opposed an autopsy on the body at the National Institute of Scientific Investigation, to change their mind.

Parents of the dead student said, "Eyewitnesses' testimony confirmed that our son was beaten to death by riot policemen. So there is no reason for conducting a post-mortem. We cannot kill him twice."

Prosecutors, who were trying to contact Kang's family and student representatives for the autopsy, said they were denied access to Yonsei University Hospital where the body of the dead student is being kept.

The four accused riot policemen were handed over to the prosecution for questioning at 5:40 P.M.

Prosecutors called in Son In-kyu, 28, and Yu Yong-sik, 27, the two known witnesses to the brutal killing, Choe Ok-kyong, a night-duty doctor at the Yonsei University Hospital, and Pak Tong-kuk, chief surgeon at the Holy Family Hospital, both who examined Kang's body, to hear testimony.

They said the probe centered around a possibility of the involvement of more riot policemen, adding that witnesses said two to four more policemen seemed to be on the spot.

Although the accused policemen initially strongly denied employing steel pipes, they later confessed to using the objects, sources close to the investigation team said.

Senior Supt. Cho Mun-hyong, chief of Seoul Sobu Police Station, Capt. Kim Hyon-chung, the riot squad's 94th company leader, and Lt. Pak Man-ho, the platoon leader, were relieved of their posts for failing to supervise their men while breaking up the student rally.

Witnesses and police investigators said about 400 riot policemen rushed out of alleys and chased student demonstrators who took to the street about 100 meters from the school gate at 4 P.M. Friday.

But Kang was caught by the policemen, part of a riot police arrest team, while trying to flee into his campus over a wall.

At the time, Kang was in charge of communication between students during a protest to demand the release of Pak Kwang-chol, president of Myongji University student council, who was arrested Thursday.

Police investigators said Cpl. Kim Yong-sun grabbed Kang by his jumper and pulled [him] down onto the ground.

Pfc. Yi Hyong-yong, Cpl. Chang Kwang-chu joined hands in battering Kang with 1.2-meter long steel pipes and dragging him five meters.

Cpl. Yim Chon-sun finally kicked and trampled the student, police investigators said.

The four policemen told investigators that they left behind the student, who appeared to have lost consciousness on the sidewalk, after finding that he was bleeding from the head.

Police said they retrieved two steel pipes and two wooden sticks which third platoon leader Lt. Pak Man-ho picked up in his riot police bus and later discarded.

Kang was initially taken to the school dispensary, but an on-duty nurse told students to take Kang, who had already lost consciousness, to a hospital.

The student was rushed to a hospital about 800 meters from the school, but was pronounced dead upon arrival.

Dr. Pak Tong-kuk, chief of the surgery department, said Kang's heart had stopped when he arrived at the hospital.

"The student had a 7 to 8cm-long, 0.8mm-deep cut on his right forehead. I presume the injuries were not caused by sharp objects but something long and blunt like a steel pipe," he said.

Pak said there was no external bleeding and Kang seemed to have died of a cerebral hemorrhage.

His body was later transferred to the morgue of Yonsei University Hospital at his father's request.

More than 1,000 students converged around the hospital and staged an overnight sit-in, blocking all access to the mortuary.

Prime Minister Issues Apology

SK2904033591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0249 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister No Chae-pong apologized Monday and offered his "deepest-felt" condolences to the people for the police beating death of a student Friday.

"On behalf of the government, I, with the greatest regrets and sorrow, once again apologize and send condolences to Mr. Kang's parents and the people," No said in his public apology on the death of Kang Kyong-tae, a Myongji University freshman.

"The cabinet cannot but feel a heavy sense of responsibility for this tragic incident in which (riot policemen) beat a demonstrating collegian of their own age to death...at present, the most urgent and important thing is to clearly unveil the truth and to work out the best measures to prevent a recurrence of this incident," the prime minister said.

The tragic incident was an occasion for self-reflection in every corner of society, No said.

"When we face the fact that the incident happened in the course of suppressing a violent demonstration, we cannot but point out that collegians, the learned circle, should correct their violent, destructive ways of demonstrating."

The statement was issued shortly after No presided over an inter- ministerial conference on Kang's death. During the conference, he directed the Home Ministry to ban the use of violence in suppressing demonstrations, find ways to safely break up demonstrations and strengthen education of policemen.

Police To Disperse Demonstrators

SK2904082191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0705 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—National Police Headquarters [NPH] ordered Monday that riot control efforts focus on breaking up demonstrations instead of arresting the participants.

In a set of guidelines prompted by the killing of a student demonstrator Friday, NPH banned police use of iron pipes and clubs and said combat policemen who used "unauthorized means" to subdue demonstrators could be punished.

Commanders should check their men for weapons before sending them to the scene of a demonstration, NPH said.

It said the personality profiles of combat policemen should be examined thoroughly and those with violent inclinations should be kept away from demonstrations.

Combat policemen should not use violence or bad language or throw back the stones hurled at them by students, NPH said.

It ordered a minimum use of tear gas and banned its use in underpasses or in churches, temples and hospitals.

Senior police officers should remain with their men during street protests and take special care of any captured demonstrators, NPH said.

Use of Imported Ethnic Korean Labor Planned

SK2904100291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0916 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP)—The Energy and Resources Ministry said Monday it will decide whether to allow South Korean mines to employ foreign workers after a test with a limited number of ethnic Koreans in China late this year.

Ethnic Koreans in China's Jilin province will be hired tentatively at Dogye or Hwasun mines of the state-run Daihan Coal Corp., a Ministry spokesman said.

He said Korean mines had lost considerable competitiveness due to a lack of workers and high wages. The number of miners has fallen from 68,000 in 1987 to 38,000 last year.

Employment of foreign workers became a hot issue between the government and Korean workers when the cabinet discussed its possibility last month.

Regulations to prevent illegal immigration, such as limiting stays in Korea to two years and adjusting pay days, are being drawn up, the spokesman said.

He said the ministry will close 115 less-productive mines to keep annual coal output between 11 million and 12 million tons. Demand for anthracite is expected to slip 7.2 percent and for soft coal 8.3 percent. Korea produced 2.19 million tons by late April, compared to a goal of 1.3 million tons for the year.

Awareness of Occupational Risks Said Increased

SK2704023091 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Apr 91 p 3

[By staff reporter Kim Su-yong]

[Text] The recent news about Wonjin Rayon workers being poisoned with carbon bisulfide has awakened the people to the serious health risks facing employees assigned to dangerous work sites.

The suicide of a retired Wonjin worker suffering from the toxic gas poisoning has triggered a public outcry for steps to ensure safety in working places and also prompted authorities to launch a fact-finding mission into Wonjin Rayon, the nation's largest viscose rayon producer.

The report that Kwon Kyong-yong, 44, who had been stricken by the incurable occupational disease, killed himself last April 11, came as a shock to the public as well as fellow workers.

Kwon had reportedly been complaining about mental illness, apparently caused by the carbon bisulfide poisoning. In 1985, he retired from Wonjin Rayon because of partial paralysis, breathing difficulties and mental ailments he got while working at the plant's rayon spinning section, considered the most dangerous working place in the factory for eight years since 1977.

It was last May that he was belatedly confirmed by the company as a victim of the occupational disease and provided with industrial disaster payments.

The body of Kim Pong-hwan, 52, another Wonjin worker, who died last January is still being kept at a morgue as the association of Wonjin Rayon occupational disease victims and the firm argue over whether he was an occupational disease sufferer.

So far, 268 Wonjin Rayon workers are suspected of having been poisoned with the deadly gas and other substances, being discharged into the air in the course of producing viscose rayon.

Out of the total, only 96 employees have been officially confirmed as victims of the occupational disease. The remaining 165, except seven who have died, are undergoing health tests or are still waiting for industrial insurance payments.

Residents near the Wonjin Rayon's plant in Migum, Kyonggi-to, complain about bad odor coming from the factory and metal structures in nearby schools and houses have been eroded apparently under the influence of the toxic gas, reports said.

Wonjin Rayon workers said the company recognizes only the plant's viscose rayon spinning section as a dangerous working place.

They claimed that workers are given no oxygen supply masks though they are exposed to dangerous gases in other working places.

Pak Kyu-tak, chief of Wonjin Rayon's Labor Affairs Division, was quoted as saying that "we cannot recognize all workers who have a probability of having diseases as occupational disease victims."

The firm has invested 5 billion won in handing out gas masks or installing anti-pollution devices since 1988 when a worker was confirmed to be suffering from carbon bisulfide poisoning for the first time, said the official, adding that working conditions have improved greatly and the concentration of the toxic gas has fallen below the allowable level.

The Labor Ministry yesterday hurriedly sent a fact-finding mission to investigate the true picture of the firm's working conditions.

The ministry also ordered labor inspectors to conduct a special inspection into 680 firms dealing with heavy metals and hazardous substances until the end of next month to determine whether they comply with industrial safety guidelines.

Labor officials said an examination conducted by the ministry last November showed that the concentration level of carbon bisulfide measured 0.1 to 10ppm (parts per million), quite low compared to 2.51 to 32.7ppm in July 1988.

The current investigation would scrutinize Wonjin Rayon's working conditions, they said.

Industrial disaster experts say that many occupational disease victims have been virtually abandoned without due protection since terms for official recognition of occupational disease sufferers are too strict and the procedure for industrial payments takes too much time.

Figures released by the Labor Ministry showed that in 1989, 7,568 people were initially diagnosed as suspected occupational disease victims.

But the number of workers officially confirmed to suffer from occupational diseases accounted for a mere 1,500 or 20 percent of the total.

Under the current law, it usually takes five to six months for workers to be confirmed as victims of occupational diseases.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

Japan's Prime Minister Kaifu Arrives on 29 Apr

OW2904073691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0621 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Brunei, April 29 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu flew from Kuala Lumpur to Brunei on Monday afternoon on the second leg of his five-nation southeast Asian tour.

Kaifu will meet Brunei's Sultan and Prime Minister Hassanal Bolkiah later in the day.

Earlier Monday, Kaifu visited the Japanese Language Center at the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur. Kaifu arrived there Saturday and held talks with Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad.

On Sunday he spent a leisurely day sightseeing in the historic town of Malacca and later met members of the Japanese community in Kuala Lumpur.

After Brunei, Kaifu will go to Thailand, Singapore, and the Philippines. He is scheduled to return home on May 6.

Meets Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah

OW2904112391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1041 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, April 29 KYODO—Brunei joined Malaysia on Monday in officially endorsing Japan's dispatch of minesweepers to the Persian Gulf.

Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, who also serves as Brunei's prime minister, expressed his support for the deployment of Japanese minesweepers at a palace meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Japanese officials said.

Kaifu, here on the second leg of a five-nation Southeast Asian tour, obtained the nod of Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad on the minesweeping mission during their meeting in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday.

Japan sent four minesweepers, a support vessel, and a supply ship Friday to join other countries in removing mines planted in the Gulf by Iraq. It is the nation's first nontraining military deployment abroad since World War II.

Kaifu told the sultan at the Istana Nurul Iman Palace that Japan has taken the action as part of its contribution to world peace and security.

He assured the sultan that Japan, reflecting on its military past, will never be a major military power again.

Hassanal gave high marks to Japan's policies aimed at ensuring world stability, including the minesweeping mission, the officials said.

Brunei, which has no diplomatic ties with socialist countries, will carefully discuss the advisability of opening such relations with China, Hassanal was quoted as saying.

The sultan said his country has already made official contact with China, adding that his brother and foreign minister, Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, is on familiar terms with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

A senior Chinese Foreign Ministry official visited Brunei early in April in an apparent attempt to tap the possibility of establishing diplomatic ties with the oil-rich nation, Japanese sources said.

The sultan made the remarks after Kaifu stressed the need to support China's open-door policy to help stabilize Asia, which still faces a host of regional problems such as the divided Korean peninsula and the Cambodian conflict, Japanese officials said.

Kaifu also sought Brunei's support for Tokyo's plan to win a nonpermanent seat on the U.N. Security Council.

Hassanal promised to provide full support when the matter is raised, the officials said.

At the hourlong meeting, Hassanal expressed appreciation for Japan's contribution to solving the 12-year Cambodian conflict, referring to Tokyo's hosting of a peace conference in June last year.

But he said the problem should in principle be resolved by Cambodians, the officials said.

Kaifu also thanked his host for Brunei's stable supply of energy resources.

Japan imports all of the natural gas and one-third of the crude oil produced by the sultanate, a tiny Islamic nation on Borneo island with a population of some 250,000.

Kaifu proposed that the two nations step up not only economic and trade, but personnel exchanges as well to help promote the sultanate's development, the officials said.

Hassanal urged Kaifu to allow the opening of regular commercial flights between the two countries.

Kaifu said, however, it might not be possible in the near future due to the lack of passenger demand and the limited slot capacity of new Tokyo International Airport at Narita, Chiba Prefecture.

But he promised to discuss the matter further, offering to look into the possibility of using local airports in Japan as a direct air link, the officials said.

Kaifu arrived here from Kuala Lumpur on the second leg of a five- nation southeast Asian tour, which will also take him to Thailand, Singapore, and the Philippines.

He is the first Japanese prime minister to visit the oil-rich sultanate since its independence in 1984.

Kaifu is scheduled to return home May 6.

Malaysia

Japan's Kaifu Arrives for Three-Day Visit

BK2704101091 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0830 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Excerpts] Kuala Lumpur, 27 Apr [OANA-BERNAMA]—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu arrived Saturday for a three-day visit to Kuala Lumpur as part of his nine-day tour of five Southeast Asian countries. He was accompanied by his wife, and a 69-member delegation which included senior officials of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and his wife, Deputy Minister of Internal Trade and Consumers Affairs Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir and his wife greeted the visitors after their special aircraft touched down.

The chartered flight left Haneda airport in Tokyo one hour behind schedule because of a reported fuel leak. Among others present at the airport were Japanese ambassador to Malaysia Hiroshi Fukuda, Malaysian ambassador to Japan Mohamed Khatib Abdul Hamid, and senior officials from the Foreign Ministry and the Japanese Embassy.

Abdullah Badawi escorted Kaifu in a motorcade to Parliament House for the official welcoming ceremony and where Kaifu and wife will be welcomed by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and wife, Hasmah Ali.

This was followed by an inspection of a guard of honor mounted by military officers. Dr. Mahathir later introduced Kaifu to dignitaries, cabinet ministers, and foreign diplomats. [passage omitted].

Holds Discussion With Mahathir

BK2704141491 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1330 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Japan will follow further development of Malaysia's proposal for the setting up of an East Asia Economic Grouping, EAEG. This was stated today by the visiting Japanese Prime Minister Mr. Toshiki Kaifu during his three and-a-half hours discussion with Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed in Kuala Lumpur this evening.

Mr. Kaifu said that Japan will especially follow the discussions on the matter to be held in future among ASEAN countries. The Japanese prime minister especially appreciated the explanation given by Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir on the need to set up the grouping. The Japanese prime minister agreed that steps should be taken to prevent protectionism by the developed countries.

Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir explained that his idea to set the EAEG was not to form a trade bloc but basically the proposal was to ensure peaceful trade throughout the world.

These details were given to newsmen after the meeting by Wisma Putra's [Foreign Ministry] deputy secretary-general Datuk Majid Mohamed. According to Datuk Majid, Japan has not rejected the proposal and no decision was made during the meeting.

Assures No 'Military Revival'

BK2704152891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1511 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 27 (AFP)—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu Saturday moved to reassure Southeast Asia that Tokyo's decision to dispatch minesweepers and supply ships to the Gulf did not presage a military revival.

A Malaysian official briefing reporters on the Japanese leader's talks with Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed said Mr. Kaifu told his host that Japan would stick to its commitment not to rearm or project its military power abroad.

Abdul Majid Mohamad, deputy secretary general at the Malaysian Foreign Ministry, quoted Mr. Kaifu as saying that Tokyo "remained conscious of the unhappy experience that east Asian countries went through during World War II" when Japanese forces occupied most of Southeast Asia.

He said that Mr. Kaifu's remarks were the first such allusion to local sentiment about Japan's role during the war made by a visiting Japanese premier.

Mr. Kaifu arrived here Saturday for a three-day visit, kicking off a five-nation Southeast Asian tour that will also take him to Brunei, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines, all members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). He visited Indonesia, the only other member of ASEAN, last year.

Mr. Kaifu's spokesman, Sadaaki Numata, said that Tokyo remained conscious that Japan's actions had brought about "unbearable suffering to the peoples of Asia."

But he said that the decision to dispatch the naval vessels had been dictated by a realisation that Japan "cannot just sit by and continue to make money" without meeting its wider international obligations when a crisis such as the Gulf war occurs.

Mr. Majid, who attended the more than two-hour meeting between the two leaders, said that Malaysia had no objections to Tokyo's decision to send the naval vessels to the Gulf. The ships are expected to call at Malaysia's northern Penang Port.

"We base our position after looking at the objective. The ships are being deployed not for war, but to clear mines," he said.

Officials said that Dr. Mahathir did not directly comment on Mr. Kaifu's statement during the talks but that the Malaysian leader would refer to an earlier Japanese commitment not to rearm during a dinner speech late Saturday.

They said that Dr. Mahathir would recall similar assurances by Takeo Fukuda, a former Japanese premier, in 1977 disavowing a military role for Japan and pledging to build mutual confidence and trust with Southeast Asian states. The pledge is now called the "Fukuda Doctrine."

Mr. Majid said that Mr. Kaifu told Dr. Mahathir that Tokyo would continue to closely follow discussions within ASEAN on a Malaysian proposal to form an East Asian Economic Grouping (EAEG).

He said that Dr. Mahathir explained that the EAEG was not a new trading bloc but was conceived as "a loose forum to address rising protectionism and other negative developments in the way of freer trade and to promote a better flow of investments."

Officials said that Tokyo's support for the proposal was critical to its success but added that they had not expected a full endorsement from the Japanese premier at this stage following U.S. criticism of the plan.

"Japan has not made up its mind yet but they have definitely not rejected the proposal," a Malaysian official said.

Mr. Majid said Mr. Kaifu told the Malaysian premier that Tokyo would continue providing yen credits to Malaysia, particularly those sought for infrastructural projects required to cope with a surge in foreign investments, partly from Japan.

Responds to Paper's Questions

OW2704051591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0439 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 27 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu was quoted Saturday as saying closer relations with the rest of Asia are the "main pillars" of Tokyo's foreign policy but that continued "global partnership" with the United States also is essential.

The Malaysian daily BUSINESS TIMES said Kaifu replied in writing to its questions ahead of his tour of five Southeast Asian countries which starts with a visit to Kuala Lumpur on Saturday.

In his response, Kaifu said Japan "must forthrightly contribute" to creating a new world order "through dialogue and cooperation based on the principles of freedom and democracy."

"Within this environment, it is essential that Japan also continues to develop the global partnership between Japan and the U.S.," the newspaper said.

At the same time Japan, as an Asian nation, "considers the advancement of friendly and cooperative relations with the various countries in this region to be the main pillars of Japan's foreign policy," Kaifu said.

He assured Japan's Asian partners that Tokyo "intends to continue its efforts" at meetings of major economic powers and on all other occasions "to ensure that Asian voices are reflected in international society."

Kaifu denied that Japan will emerge as a major military player in Asia if the U.S. presence declines, even if nations in the region called for such a role.

He said the United States has made clear its intention to maintain bilateral security arrangements with Asia-Pacific nations based on the fundamental policy of its forward deployment strategy.

"I therefore do not believe that there will be any substantial change in the stabilizing role of the U.S. military presence in this region," Kaifu said, reiterating Tokyo's "fundamental idea of never again becoming a military power."

The BUSINESS TIMES also carried an editorial on Kaifu's visit, urging Japan to be more assertive in dealing with the U.S.

As the only Asian member among the seven summit powers, "Japan has no choice but to continue providing leadership for countries in the region," the paper said.

"The question that ought to be asked of Mr. Kaifu is whether Japan can be effective in this role."

East Asian countries have noticed that Japan "appears to be more and more under the thumb of the U.S. in political, security and economic matters," the daily said.

"In fact, Japan's move to expand its prominence in economic matters to other spheres is also at the behest of Washington," it said, referring to Friday's departure of Japanese minesweepers for the Persian Gulf which it said resulted from "strong pressure" from the U.S.

"For the moment, what ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) wants of Japan is more serious concern for the issues that affect the region, especially on the economic front."

Kaifu "should not sidestep" Malaysia's proposal to set up an East Asian economic group "simply because of the lack of a formal declaration of support for it from ASEAN," the daily said.

"So long as it is unable to tear itself away from the apron strings of the U.S., Japan's capabilities as a world power will always be a question mark."

Says Relations Cordial; Departs

BK2904064091 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Malaysia's Look East Policy has succeeded in strengthening its ties with Japan. This was stated by Japanese Prime Minister Mr. Toshiki Kaifu. He said his country has so far sent 90 volunteers to Malaysia to teach Japanese language under the program. About 3,000 Malaysians have pursued their higher education in Japan in the past 10 years. He hoped the existing cordial relations between the two countries will continue for mutual benefit. Mr. Kaifu said this during his visit to the

University of Malaya's Gateway to Japan, a preparatory center for students pursuing studies in Japan this morning.

He left the federal capital today after a three-day official visit to Malaysia.

Commentary on Kaifu's Visit

BK2904094991 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Station Commentary]

[Text] The current visit of the Japanese prime minister to Malaysia and four other ASEAN countries is a significant event. Malaysia and Japan enjoy good relations, and the economic and trade links have grown stronger over the years. Japan is also the foremost foreign investor in a number of enterprises in Malaysia.

Mr. Kaifu's visit to the ASEAN region is taking place against the backdrop of a new phase in Japan's external relations. For the first time since the Second World War, Japanese naval vessels will be seen in this part of the world. Six minesweepers are on their way to the Gulf to help clear the area where there are still some active mines.

This event can be said to mark Japan's intention to play a more dynamic role in international peacekeeping activities. After all, it is more than 45 years since the end of the Second War War. Japan has set an example to all Third World countries by its rapid recovery. Indeed it is a true economic superpower. It can hold its own in any field of technology even against the United States and the European Community.

It is hardly surprising that the Malaysian people launched the famous "look east policy" of a few years ago. Malaysians are aware of the relevance of work ethics and discipline in the quest for higher living standards. It would be true to say that the present generation of Japanese have worked hard to get rid of the image of the old militaristic Japan. Similarly, the present generation of Malaysians and other ASEAN people know only the peaceful and industrious Japan.

The Japanese minesweepers will be calling at a number of ports on their way to the Gulf. Their visits will provoke curiosity but not hostility. The international community accepts the need for Japan to come back into the mainstream of world politics. Up to now Japan has been more prominent in economic development alone. It should no longer maintain such a low profile in international affairs. Japan should open up its domestic market to more goods from the developing nations. This is a long-standing criticism of Japanese trade policy.

Further, Malaysia and other countries are seeking not aid but transfer of technology, and investments. These are topics that figured prominently in the talks that Mr. Kaifu and his delegation had with Malaysian ministers. Malaysia's intention to become a fully industrialized nation by the year 2020 has received much attention overseas. Japan can be expected to play a major role in this long-term plan. Apart from invesung in more Malaysian enterprises, the Japanese could assist in the more sophisticated training program. It is significant in this connection that more young Malaysians are studying Japanese.

It is certain that contacts between Malaysia and Japan will increase considerably in all fields of endeavor.

Pact With Australia Despite 'Strained' Ties

BK2804151091 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1330 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Defense cooperation between Malaysia and Australia will continue at the present level despite strained relations now between the two countries. This was stated by Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak. He said Australia, along with other members of the Five-Power Defense Arrangement, FPDA, had reaffirmed their commitment to the defense of Malaysia and Singapore. He told reporters this after the inaugural FPDA defense ministers' meeting in Kuala Lumpur. Datuk Sri Najib said continued cooperation in defense and security matters was in the interest of the two countries.

He said he did not bring up the matter of bilateral relations between Malaysia and Australia at the FPDA meeting because it is not the right forum. Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir is to meet his Australian counterpart Bob Hawke in London in June over the matter. Malaysia had accused the Australian media of carrying out a smear campaign against the country.

The current strained ties have led to the suspension of activities at the official level as well as visits by officials of both countries. Australian Defense Minister Robert Ray is expected to discuss defense cooperation matters with Datuk Sri Najib on Tuesday.

Singapore

Communications Accord Signed With Indonesia

BK2504130391 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Apr 91 p 40

[By Mary Kwang]

[Excerpt] Singapore Telecom International (STI) is entering a joint venture with two Indonesian parties to provide telecommunication services to the Batam Industrial Park (BIP) initially, and later for the whole of Batam, and even possibly Bintan.

This was announced by the Indonesian Minister for Tourism, Post and Telecommunications, Mr Susilo Sudarman, who was in Batam yesterday to open the Muka Kuning Digital Telephone Exchange located in the BIP.

He said that a memorandum of understanding to form the joint venture was signed by the three parties in Jakarta earlier on Tuesday.

Apart from STI, which is the international telecommunications consultancy arm of Singapore Telecom, the other partners are Indonesia's national telephone board, Perusahaan Umum Telecomunikasi (Perumtel) and BIP's owner-com-developer, Batam-Indo Investment Corporation (BIC).

When formed, the STI-Perumtel-BIC firm will be the only telecommunications venture in Indonesia to have foreign participation, according to Indonesian sources.

Mr. Sudarman said that the proposed joint venture firm, with an initial investment of $9 million, would provide services, including international calls and facsimile transmissions, to the BIP, and later to the rest of Batam Island. [passage omitted]

Cambodia

'Warring Factions' Accept Cease-Fire Call

BK2604131891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1242 GMT 26 Apr 91

[By Charles Antoine de Nerciat]

[Text] Bangkok, April 26 (AFP)—Cambodia's warring factions have accepted an international call for a voluntary ceasefire in their 12-year war but mutual distrust has dashed hopes of an early end to the fighting.

The Khmer Rouge, the military muscle of the Cambodian resistance fighting the Phnom Penh Government, Friday became the last of the factions to agree to a ceasefire proposed by France and Indonesia, which co-chair the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

But Khieu Samphan, the nominal leader of the Beijing-backed radical Marxist group allied loosely to two smaller non-communist factions, immediately suggested he doubted Phnom Penh would observe the ceasefire.

This week the Cambodian Government, which Hanoi installed after toppling the Khmer Rouge regime in January 1979, expressed support for the ceasefire, saying: "This appeal would meet the aspirations of the people and the government of the state of Cambodia." But Phnom Penh has demanded major alterations to a U.N. peace plan for Cambodia, insisting that it include strong measures to prevent a return to power by the Khmer Rouge whose brutal rule between 1975 and 1979 led to the deaths of hundreds of thousands in Cambodia.

"We accept the call of the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and we are pleased with that call," Mr. Khieu Samphan told reporters as he emerged from talks over lunch between Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun and leaders of the guerrilla coalition. But he suggested government forces would not abide by any truce, recalling Hanoi's history in breaking ceasefire promises during the Vietnam War. "We hope they do not do the same again," he said.

Cambodia's U.S.-aided non-communist groups—followers of former King Prince Norodom Sihanouk and ex-premier Son Sann—were the first to welcome the call for a ceasefire from May 1. It would last at least until the conclusion of peace talks scheduled for next month in Jakarta.

Mr. Son Sann, who also attended the luncheon meeting with Mr. Anan, said he "wholeheartedly accepted the call without any conditions." But, during a press conference, he reiterated resistance claims that tens of thousands of Vietnamese troops were still fighting in Cambodia—a point disputed by Hanoi and Phnom Penh.

Mr. Son Sann renewed a call for Prince Sihanouk to chair the Supreme National Council (SNC), an interim authority formed last year with representatives of all factions to embody Cambodia's sovereignty in the lead-up U.N.-supervised elections.

Although the prince is not an SNC member, Phnom Penh has accepted the prince's chairmanship on condition that Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen be appointed deputy chairman. "I don't think that's workable," Mr. Son Sann said.

Mr. Anan met with the guerrilla leaders as Mr. Hun Sen was expected here Saturday for a two-day visit.

The 40-year-old Phnom Penh leader, who is in Tokyo for unspecified medical checks, will have discussions with the Thai premier and Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin.

The SNC is tentatively scheduled to meet in mid-May in Jakarta in an attempt to break the stalemate in international efforts to settle the conflict. It has been unable in its first two meetings to resolve differences between the factions, with Phnom Penh demanding major changes in the U.N. peace plan that has been accepted by the guerrillas. The government wants a guarantee that it remain in power with its armed forces intact during the interim period. Phnom Penh argues that this is necessary to prevent the Khmer Rouge returning to power.

Meanwhile, informed sources reported in Tokyo that French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and his Indonesian counterpart, Ali Alatas, had been handed Mr. Hun Sen a joint letter in a bid to avoid clashes at next month's SNC meeting. The letter, the sources said, discussed the meeting agenda and asked Mr. Hun Sen to seek approval from the resistance for changes in Phnom Penh's representation on the SNC.

The SNC, which comprises six Phnom Penh representatives and two from each of the three guerrillas factions, must take decisions by consensus. But Phnom Penh has replaced three of its original members without consulting the resistance.

Tripartite Resistance Statement

BK2704014691 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 26 Apr 91

["Statement of the Cambodian National Resistance Forces"; dated 26 April—read by announcer]

[Text] On 26 April 1991, leaders of the tripartite Cambodian national resistance forces issued a statement. Here it is.

1. The current war in Cambodia remains Vietnam's war of aggression to occupy Cambodia. Currently, Vietnamese troops stationed in Cambodia are constantly operating; there are over 50,000 of them. Apart from this, when Vietnam needs to launch large-scale offensives against the Cambodian national resistance forces, it brings in 20,000 additional troops from Vietnam. This number excludes other armed Vietnamese forces, including secret policemen and advisers, who control various ministries, services, and offices of the Phnom Penh side.

2. The Cambodian national resistance forces have received news that on 22 April 1991, the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] and the UN secretary general issued a joint appeal to all parties involved in the war in Cambodia for a voluntary temporary cease-fire. The tripartite Cambodian national resistance forces are happy to accept this appeal.

As victims of Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia, the Cambodian national resistance forces have the duty to fight to defend themselves. We appeal to Vietnam to seriously abide by the appeal of the Paris conference cochairmen and the UN Secretary General.

Through past experiences, still remembered by the international community, before the 1973 Paris agreement, North Vietnam annually proposed a temporary truce during the Vietnamese New Year. However, the North Vietnamese never honored their words. People still remember that in 1968, Vietnam proposed a temporary cease-fire during the Vietnamese New Year. In fact, the North Vietnamese seized that opportunity to launch a large-scale offensive against Saigon.

3. The tripartite Cambodian national resistance forces again appeal for the urgent convening in Jakarta of a meeting between the PICC cochairmen and members of the Supreme National Council to pave the way for the quick convening the PICC's coordinating committee.

4. The tripartite Cambodian national resistance forces under Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's leadership fully support the 28 August 1990 framework document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] and the 26 November 1990 draft agreement and have repeatedly appealed to all parties involved in the war in Cambodia to also fully accept these documents.

The tripartite Cambodian national resistance forces would like to take this opportunity to express most profound gratitude to peace- and independence-loving countries, particularly the ASEAN countries, the UNSC five permanent members, and the UN Secretary General, for making all kinds of efforts in the search for a political and comprehensive solution to the Cambodian problem based on the framework document of the five permanent members and within the framework of the PICC.

[Dated] 26 April 1991

Hun Sen: Pol Pot Main Barrier to Lasting Peace

OW2604144891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1421 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 26 KYODO—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said here Friday that a plan calling for the United Nations to administer Cambodia during a transitional period leading to elections would have to include firm measures preventing the former Pol Pot regime from retaking power.

Hun Sen, speaking to reporters at a Tokyo hotel, said one of his main concerns about the draft UN peace plan is that it does not refer to a peacekeeping role for UN forces which could prevent a resurgence of fighting.

"Rather, there is a reference to a military component," he said. "The draft confines the UN role to facilitating elections." Hun Sen added that this does not mean he is saying the UN forces will need to fight in Cambodia. "Our concern is to prevent the return of the Pol Pot regime," he said. "This is related to the life and death of the people of Cambodia."

The Pol Pot-led Khmer Rouge, which ruled Cambodia from 1975-78, is now the strongest of three resistance factions opposed to the Hun Sen government. The Hun Sen government accuses it of practicing genocidal policies which were responsible for the deaths of millions of Cambodians during that period.

Hun Sen said his government's forces now control more than 94 percent of Cambodian territory and are engaging only in "nonoffensive operations" to defend population centers.

Hun Sen, installed by the Vietnamese when they ousted the Khmer Rouge, indicated that one of the main stumbling blocks to a successful conclusion of a meeting scheduled in Jakarta in May among all parties to the Cambodian dispute could be guarantees against a return to power by Pol Pot. He said any political or military arrangement overseen by the UN in the lead-up to elections would have to ensure that Pol Pot could not use the opportunity to "grab power by military means."

Hun Sen said his government is willing to have Prince Sihanouk, leader of one of the guerrilla factions, act as chairman of the Supreme National Council, designed as a joint interim authority bringing together the Phnom Penh Government and the three resistance factions, as long as Hun Sen himself is cochairman.

Saying that the issues raised during his unofficial talks with "high-ranking" Japanese officials will need "further examination," he said he will take them to Jakarta for consideration by all parties to the dispute.

Hun Sen, who is in Japan for a medical checkup, did not specify the nature of his health problem, but said he has suffered the condition since the Paris peace talks in December. "My visit here was arranged by the Japanese Government for humanitarian reasons," he said. "I have been well taken care of by the professors and doctors at the hospital." He is reportedly suffering from high blood pressure.

Hun Sen said he has already responded to an appeal from France, Indonesia and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for a temporary ceasefire in Cambodia to be in place by May 1 by ordering the commander-in-chief of his forces to be ready for a ceasefire on that date.

He said that, in the past, his government had been blamed for delaying the peace process. But he said it is more important at this stage for any remaining fundamental objections to a peace plan to be addressed.

He likened the present stage of the negotiations to the final stage of a marathon race. "It involves a lot of parties and many countries," he said. "Therefore it is not that simple to solve this problem."

Hun Sen arrived in Tokyo on April 21. He will leave on Saturday for Bangkok for talks with Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun. This will be the Cambodian premier's first visit to Thailand since a military junta overthrew the government of Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan in February.

Hun Sen said he believes the coup, which he called "an affair of the Thai people," has not affected efforts toward peace in Cambodia. "I believe the Thai leaders, both military and civilian, very much want to see peace in Cambodia."

Saying work on a peace settlement is in its "final stage," Hun Sen called on all countries concerned "to coordinate among themselves to provide a good solution."

Hun Sen Reaffirms Support for Cease-Fire

BK2804005891 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Apr 91 p A1

[Text] Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen who arrived here from Tokyo yesterday reaffirmed his support for a temporary ceasefire in the Cambodian conflict starting Wednesday [1 May], paving the way for a fresh round of peace talks in Jakarta scheduled in late May.

Hun Sen told reporters after meeting with Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin at the Central Plaza Hotel last night that the proposed ceasefire came at the right time as all four Cambodian factions had shown keen interest in the Jakarta talks.

On Friday, leaders of the three Cambodian resistance factions, who met with Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun here, and Hun Sen accepted the international call for a ceasefire which will remain in place at least until the Jakarta meeting ends.

The warring Cambodian factions were responding to the call for a cessation of hostilities and a new round of peace talks in Jakarta by France and Indonesia, the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Hun Sen, accompanied by his wife and Phnom Penh Foreign Minister Sok An, arrived in Bangkok at around 3.30 pm. He is staying at the Central Plaza Hotel.

The Phnom Penh leader last night discussed with top Foreign Ministry officials the prospects for the peace talks in Jakarta over a dinner hosted by Asa.

He was scheduled to call on the Thai prime minister, Supreme Commander Sunthon Khongsomphong and army chief Suchinda Khraprayun at their homes this morning before leaving for Phnom Penh tomorrow.

A source who participated in the discussion said Asa was told by Hun Sen that he would go to the Jakarta peace talks.

The source said Thailand's arranging of the meetings between Anan and the leaders of the four Cambodian factions was to demonstrate that Thailand wanted to treat them as "equal players" in the peace settlement process.

Asa said after last night's discussion with Hun Sen that the Phnom Penh leader had expressed reservations on the United Nations Permanent Five's peace plan. He did not give details.

The foreign minister described the acceptance of the ceasefire by all four Cambodian factions as a positive sign that would lead to the peace talks definitely resuming in Jakarta.

Son Sann Asks Humanitarian Aid Through SNC

BK2704085891 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] According to a report reaching the Voice of the Khmer newsroom, His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and prime minister of the National Government of Cambodia, yesterday asked the United States and Japan to give humanitarian aid to the Cambodian people through the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC]. This is to enable the SNC members to basically work together.

The SNC has had no specific activity since the failure of talks last year on the election of its chairman and other issues in Bangkok.

His Excellency Son Sann said humanitarian aid provided to the Cambodian people through the SNC will help enhance the latter's role. He added that he would raise this issue at the meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu in Bangkok next week.

The Japanese prime minister is scheduled to visit Thailand from 30 April to 2 May.

Phnom Penh Gives Refugee Aid to Vietnamese Troops

BK2904093991 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] According to a report reaching the Voice of the Khmer newsroom, the Vietnamese-installed regime recently spent some $3 million earmarked by humanitarian organizations for refugee aid instead on Vietnamese troops fighting the Cambodian resistance forces. The report says that on 14 April the international humanitarian organizations allocated $3 million through the Vietnamese-installed regime for assisting the refugees in Cambodia. Nevertheless, the regime spent the funds on the Vietnamese troops fighting the Cambodian resistance movement. Each Vietnamese soldier has reportedly received $70 per month.

The Voice of the Khmer newsroom had received a report saying that tens of thousands of Vietnamese soldiers and experts from all branches are administering the Vietnamese-created Heng Samrin regime's administrative structure at all levels and sectors and that the authority directly controlling the Heng Samrin regime is the Vietnamese official known as the Vietnamese ambassador in Phnom Penh.

Resistance To Fight as Long as Vietnamese Remain

BK2704121391 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Political commentary: "Cease-Fire and Settlement of the Cambodian Problem"]

[Text] The Cambodian people are Buddhist devotees and lovers of peace who have no intention whatsoever of harming other people. However, we have never quietly sat back and allowed foreigners to encroach upon our territory without a resistance struggle.

The present war in Cambodia has resulted from the unlawful occupation of the country by the Vietnamese troops. And whatever issues the Vietnamese have created and used as a pretext for obtaining support from the Cambodian people and the world, we Cambodians are not out of our minds such that we can be indifferent and allow the Vietnamese to act at will. Of course, except for those who sell the national interest to the Vietnamese for power, every Cambodian has actively carried out, with all possible means, the struggle to chase the Vietnamese out of Cambodia. We have sacrificed our own comfort for national independence and the future happiness of our children and for preserving the name of Cambodia from being eradicated by the Vietnamese.

Anyway, we have never discarded peaceful means for resolving our own problem with a view toward bringing the people's suffering to a conclusion. That being the case, we have agreed to meet the Phnom Penh side, even if we know that it can only decide with Vietnam's approval. We were flexible in creation of the Cambodian SNC [Supreme National Council] and accepted right away the UN peace plan worked out by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] while the Hanoi authorities and their Cambodian satellites in Phnom Penh rejected the key provisions of the peace plan.

Recently the co-chairmen of the Paris conference on Cambodia and the UN secretary general called for a cease-fire lasting at least from 1 May until the end of a meeting to be held by the SNC in Jakarta in mid-May. The noncommunist resistance side was the first party to support and accept the call because we realize that this is a step toward ending the slaughter of the Cambodians by the Vietnamese and the beginning of a way to close the books on the Cambodian people's over 20 years of suffering, lasting from the era of the Viet Cong to the time of the Vietnamese Bo Doi [ground troops] in Cambodia.

Some ask whether this means that we have already laid down our arms and given up the national liberation struggle. If we still see the presence of Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodia and if Vietnam continues the Vietnamization of the country through the over one million civilian Vietnamese illegally resettled in Cambodia, we have the following answer:

As long as a single Vietnamese soldier is still present in Cambodia we will in no way renounce our struggle, because it is our duty not to do so. As such, why have we agreed to the cease-fire? Does this mean that we have already been defeated by the Vietnamese aggressor forces? No. Absolutely not. We have substantially been flexible, and this is to save the face of the Vietnamese and provide them the opportunity to free themselves from the Cambodian quagmire at once. This time again we have at once accepted the proposal put forth by the Indonesian and French co-chairmen and the UN secretary general, who have presumably jointly pushed the Vietnamese to the wall in the Cambodian peace process. Is there anything else the Vietnamese can use to challenge the international community in the most shameless manner?

We have supported the cease-fire with the hope that this will help quickly achieve an overall settlement of the Cambodian problem if the Vietnamese really want to relinquish their ambition of aggression and agree to restore peace to Cambodia. However, in case our goodwill becomes a stimulant encouraging the Vietnamese to remain in Cambodia, a new phase of military struggle will further be intensified no matter what. Otherwise, we will inevitably be reproached and condemned by the Cambodian children of generations to come. We have strived to do our utmost to settle the Cambodian problem peacefully, but we, as Cambodians, have never given up our duty to liberate our nation from the Vietnamese aggressors' grasp.

Laos

Radio Hails Call for Cambodian Cease-Fire

BK2804123191 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Feature: "A Positive Step in Settling the Cambodian Problem"]

[Text] Recently, French Foreign Affairs Minister Roland Dumas and Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister Ali

Alatas, as cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, issued a statement calling on all conflicting Cambodian factions to accept a temporary cease-fire beginning 1 May and continue to observe it at least until the end of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] meeting which is expected to be held in Jakarta in mid-May this year.

Regarding this, the Government of the State of Cambodia has reiterated its supportive stand and said that the call has met the long-standing aspirations of the Cambodian people. The Government of the State of Cambodia, as well as the entire Cambodian people, has fully supported the call and considered it a significant step in seeking the means to achieve peace in Cambodia. The State of Cambodia has on many occasions called for a convening of the SNC meeting at an the earliest possible date to discuss various remaining problems in order to bring about an observance of the cease-fire on a voluntary basis and a halt to an acceptance of military assistance from foreign countries in accordance with a proposal made by the Soviet Union, a proposal which has been supported by the United States. The Government of the State of Cambodia has also called on Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos to put an end to the transportation of weapons of all types and other military equipment through their territories to various camps under the control of the various Cambodian factions or other sides.

All these proposals have reflected the good intentions and consistent stand of the Government of the State of Cambodia, which has aimed to settle the Cambodian problem through peaceful means. It is the earnest aspiration of the Government of the State of Cambodia to free the people from suffering and to implement the policy of national concord and peace in order to build Cambodia into an independent, neutral, and nonaligned country.

Everyone is well aware that the conflicts between the various factions in Cambodia have existed for as long as 12 years and that they have caused continual armed fighting and killing, as a result of which innocent Cambodian people have suffered disasters and troubles. Many were killed; many others became disabled. The Cambodian people have had no peaceful time to earn their living. The situation has also adversely affected the consolidation of peace, stability, and cooperation in this region. It is therefore of utmost and urgent necessity for all Cambodian factions to show their good intentions by responding to the call for a temporary cease-fire of the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the UN secretary general. It can be said that this call is considered a positive step and a practical measure to settle the Cambodian problem. Nevertheless, it is proposed that the cease-fire be observed on the basis of the voluntariness and sincerity of each Cambodian faction. In addition, foreign countries must stop giving military aid to the various Cambodian factions while a UN control mission must be sent to refugee camps and the areas controlled by the Cambodian resistance factions to seek measures to implement the cease-fire and, on the basis of the sincerity in observing the temporary cease-fire, pave the way for a permanent cease-fire. Only this reasonable, step-by- step, and consistent means can lead to a settlement of the problem, thus bringing about peace to Cambodia and enabling the Cambodian people to freely build their country. It can also bring about the achievement of durable peace, stability, and cooperation in this region.

Philippines

Further Reportage on U.S. Bases Negotiations

U.S Warned on Removal of Forces

HK2904103791 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] The Philippines has strongly warned the United States that it must remove its forces from the country if no agreement is reached by both sides in the bases talks tomorrow. The two countries have, on several occasions, failed to agree on the Philippine demand for $825 million annual rent for the bases. The U.S. offer is for only $360 million per year.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said the situation would be sensitive during the last series of the negotiations by both sides.

Meanwhile in Malacanang, President Aquino said national interest is the major consideration in the military bases issue. Magtanggol Rodriguez has the details:

[Begin recording] The president issued the statement following a published article stating that compensation for the bases, and not national security, is the consideration for retention or removal of the U.S. military installations from the Philippines. In the press statement, the president said that since the beginning, it has been the national interest that has been the government's sole guidepost in this issue.

In an interview with Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus, who is also the Philippine panel chief negotiator, he stated that if the Philippine panel sees no concrete alternative on the issues that the United States is expected to respond to in their talks starting tomorrow, it is just and proper for the government to prepare for the removal of the U.S. military installations. Manglapus said that the Philippine panel will do its best to make these the last talks with the U.S. panel and that the issues, which the government presented to them in the very first series of negotiations, must now be resolved. [end recording]

Activist Criticizes 'Draft' Treaty

HK2904085791 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 27 Apr 91 pp 1, 8

[Text] President Aquino will sign a new bases treaty with the United States "at whatever cost" and then manipulate the planned consultations to pressure the Senate to ratify the accord, a leading anti-bases activist said yesterday.

Roland Simbulan, chairman of the Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition, predicted that a new treaty will be concluded in a round of talks assuring continued US presence in the Philippines.

Under the new trety, he said, the U.S. will retain control over most of its facilities as well as 90 percent of the land it is now occupying.

"We anticipate that they will be signing (a new treaty) at whatever cost and concession," Simbulan told a press conference.

"We can consider it a forgone conclusion that the government, or at least the executive branch, is giving in to the demands of the United States."

Simbulan, a political science professor at the University of the Philippines, also said a new treaty would not have an easy time at the Senate because of strong anti-bases sentiment of many senators. A two-thirds vote by the 23-member Senate is required for ratification.

Chief U.S. negotiator Richard Armitage is arriving in Manila Monday for the resumption of talks, which have been dead-locked over the issues of duration and compensation.

In Malacanang, Ms. Aquino said the government was still awaiting the U.S. response to the administration's "initiatives" regarding compensation.

"Until we have received this, we are unable to see whether or not we will have a treaty. Without a treaty, there will be no need for the consultations," Ms. Aquino said.

$825 Million

Philippine negotiators have asked for an annual compensation of $825 million for a seven-year extension, while the U.S. has offered to pay $360 million yearly for a 10-year extension.

Simbulan, who said his group had obtained a draft of the new treaty, said U.S. troops will keep 95 percent of the base lands it is occupying.

The U.S. will also retain control over most of its vital naval installations despite an agreement to share their use, he said.

At Subic naval base, the U.S. will have exclusive use of the Navy supply depot, naval magazine, Navy exchange cluster, naval air station (maintenance cluster), naval hospital, and Mt. Sta. Rita, Simbulan said. However, the naval station and its piers, ship repair facility, public works center cluster, POL (petroleum, oil lubricants) cluster, naval air station flight line cluster, and naval air station administrative cluster will be for joint use by the two countries.

Simbulan said public consultations under the direction of local officials are intended to "manipulate public opinion" to pressure the Senate into approving the treaty.

Majority Support

Previous polls have shown majority support for the bases.

It is also possible for the two sides not to sign any agreement and allow the bases to remain another year following Washington's interpretation of a phaseout period under the current agreement, he said. In such a case, Washington can wait for the results of next year's senatorial race and hope that the winners will be more sympathetic toward keeping the base.

Publication of 'Draft Treaty' Urged

HK2904085991 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 28 Apr 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Cut Out 'Borloloy' [Ornaments] in RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Bases Pact"]

[Text] Reports are rife that the Philippine and the United States governments have more or less agreed on a new bases treaty, with just the duration and the compensation left to be ironed out in the resumption of the negotiations with the return this week of the chief U.S. negotiator Richard Armitage.

We are disturbed by reports that copies of the latest draft treaty show that a cash-strapped Philippines is being asked to sign away 90 percent of the current base lands at a price that will be dictated by the U.S. and decorated with "creative" borloloy to impress the ignorant.

The imminence of the Philippine capitulation is indicated by the the fact that Armitage has agreed to come back to Manila. The return of this busy man can only mean that he has been assured that the Philippine panel is just about ready to swallow its pride and agree to his terms, more or less.

While Armitage and his boys have been relatively quiet, the Philippine panel and key Executive officials have been frantically running about town selling a variety of confused formulas whose common denominator is the continued stay of the bases at a price bloated to ridiculous proportions with the inclusion into the compensation package of all other favors, aids, loans and similar U.S. programs that can be assigned a dollar tag.

The Philippine government has been reduced to pushing a valiant public relations job for Uncle Sam. The Aquino administration has assumed the embarrassing task of convincing the population that what it is about to do is to the national interest.

The only way the administration can explain the treaty it is about to sign, if indeed it can be rationalized at all, is to publish the draft, especially the items already agreed upon and the two positions (RP and U.S.) on the remaining issues. After all, there are already a number of copies circulating. Besides, with its profuse lip service to transparency, there is no reason why the administration should keep the matter from the people. Filipinos should at least know what hit them.

There are, for instance, several items in the draft treaty which some sectors have found disturbing, to say the least:

—Article IX assigns to the RP-U.S. Mutual Defense Board the task of preparing and overseeing the implementation of plans for the gradual reduction and withdrawal of U.S. forces and orderly transition.

If no safeguards are written into that article, the nature and pacing of the reduction of U.S. forces will be delegated to a board whose record shows that it has mostly been an instrument of American policy.

—Article X makes the term of the treaty open-ended by retaining the flexibility to provide for future access for U.S. forces should the Philippines so desire. That article mentions an X number of years for the so-called phasedown of U.S. forces plus a subsequent Y number of years for the "termination and withdrawal period."

In short, after a phasedown of seven years (RP version) or 10 years (U.S. version), there will still follow another period for a phaseout. This leaves the treaty open to manipulation in the hands of future administrations. Why not just one fixed term for a terminal phaseout?

If until now responsible Philippine officials, especially senators, and concerned sectors still do not have a copy of the draft treaty for their study, they should demand one.

We made serious errors in the signing of the original military bases agreement in 1947. We now have the chance to correct those unfortunate mistakes. Shall we let that golden opportunity slip?

Abrogation of Defense Treaty Viewed

HK2904064791 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 29 Apr 91 p 10

["Turn of Events" column by Francisco S. Tatad: "Time To Abrogate the Defense Treaty"]

[Text] The Philippines did not need a mutual defense traty with the United States to sign a military bases agreement in 1947. Logically, such a treaty should have come first, as the basis for allowing the U.S. to station troops at Clark and Subic. But the bases agreement came first, citing the lessons of the Pacific war and the need for the two countries to cooperate in their common defense. The mutual defense treaty came as an afterthought partly to justify the bases agreement that was already in force. Signed in Washington on August 30, 1951, the defense treaty was concurred in by the Philippine Senate on May 12, 1952, and came into force on August 27, 1952. It has never been invoked since. But now Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile wants it abrogated even as he and most of his Senate colleagues want to shut down the bases.

Enrile cites three reasons why the treaty should be terminated. First, the absence of an automatic retaliation clause—there is no guarantee the U.S. will come to the defense of the Philippines if attacked. Second, the existence of the defense pact is being used by the U.S. as an excuse not to pay compensation for the use of the bases. Third, the treaty prevents the country from entering into a non-aggression pact with other countries.

The first reason was one of the more ringing points made against the treaty—and the bases—by Sen. Claro M. Recto in the 50s. The argument had since acquired a life of its own. In 1977, dring negotiations between U.S. and Philippine official panels in New York, Enrile as defense secretary expressed the same misgivings he is expressing now.

In that meeting Enrile mentioned the fact that the country was confronted with a full-scale secessionist rebellion in the South, in which the Armed Forces were facing rebels who were receiving arms, training and other logistics from abroad. U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance showed great interest in this and asked a lot of questions. Enrile said that given the involvement of some foreign parties in the insurgency, there seemed enough reason to invoke the treaty, but that the Philippines did not want to internationalize the conflict and was therefore not invoking it. Be that as it may, he pressed for requests for arms and equipment which the government needed badly to prosecute its anti-secessionist campaign. In this, the government was sorely disappointed.

In 1979, when new amendments to the bases agreement were concluded, the issue of the mutual defense treaty was extensively treated in a letter by Vance to Foreign Secretary Carlos P. Romulo. In that letter, Vance reaffirmed the U.S. obligation under the treaty "to act to meet the common dangers in accordance with our constitutional processes in the event of an armed attack in the Pacific area on the Republic of the Philippines."

Vance went on to say that although the treaty referred to "constitutional processes," the powers of the U.S. President as Chief Executive and Commander-in-Chief under the American Constitution "are extensive and remain unimpaired by the Treaty." It should be noted that the War Powers Resolution provides that it is not intended "to alter the constitutional authority of the Congress or of the President, or the provisions of existing treaties," he said.

Although the Vance letter was written years ago, the 1991 Gulf war probably best illutrates his point. The U.S. President can mobilize U.S. troops to respond to a treaty commitment or a request for armed assistance from an ally under attack or imminent threat of attack, even before the Congress has given its go-ahead.

In a unipolar world where Constable America remains the lone policeman on the beat, a mutual defense pact with Washington cannot possibly harm our interests. That the treaty is not as good as the U.S. defense agreement with NATO in terms of automatic response gives us a good reason to ask that it be amended, but we should be careful in demanding that it be abrogated.

Indeed, U.S. officials may have from time to time invoked the defense treaty and the theoretical protection it provides the Philippines as an excuse to avoid paying compensation for its continued use of the bases. That is worth inquiring into, but even as we do so, we have to decide whether we shall treat our defense and security relationship with the U.S. as a real estate transaction or whether we shall treat it as an opportunity to become an important partner in the global economic game being played in the Asia-Pacific region by the U.S. Japan and Europe.

My own view is that we should develop the capability to look at the larger global game with the end in view of sharing the gains that the big economic powers hope to make in a region stabilized by continued U.S. presence on our bases, instead of behaving like a real estate agent and thinking of earning a small commission.

As for the allegation that the defense treaty has prevented us from entering into a non-aggression pact with our neighbors, this is a little hard to demonstrate. The treaty does not bar us from entering into a non-aggression pact with our neighbors. And I don't believe we have tried to.

But if we are ready to scrap a mutual defense treaty with the U.S. because none of our neighbors is a threat to us, what need would there be for a non-aggression pact with any of them? Assuming we propose such a pact for no other reason than that we would like to, is there any country in the region that thinks we have the armed capability from which it must be protected by a non-aggression pact?

My own reading is that the move against the defense treaty is mainly, if not exclusively, meant to provide the basis for the abrogation and non-renewal of the bases agreement. For if we could get rid of the mutual defense treaty now, then we should be able to shut down the bases tomorrow. Can we?

Manglapus Not To Appeal Senate Bases Decision

HK2704035291 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Manglapus will not interfere with the Senate's decision regarding ratification of the military bases treaty which may be reached during the latest round of talks.

Manglapus assured that even as head negotiator of the Philippine panel, he will not appeal to the Senate to ratify the treaty because he has no right to do so. He made this statement following President Aquino's announcement that the government plans to conduct a public consultation regarding the extension of the military bases retention in the country.

Manglapus stressed that the Philippine panel will strive to outline a formula that suits the Senate's position.

Orbos on U.S. Bases; Japanese Ships in Gulf

HK2904093191 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 28 Apr 91 pp 1, 19

[By Marcia Rodriguez]

[Text] Japanese leaders favor the continued stay of U.S. bases in the country for a "temporary" period to allow for "an orderly, predictable, stable transition" into a new security arrangement in Asia, Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos said yesterday.

Orbos, who arrived from a four-day visit to Japan, expressed concern over implications to regional security of the Japanese government's decision to send mine sweepers and supply ships to the Persian Gulf in the first foreign mission of Japan since World War II.

Anti-war protestors in Japan reportedly expressed fears the mission would open the door for the demilitarization of Japan and claimed it was a violation of Japan's pacifist Constitution written after Japan surrendered to the U.S. in 1945.

While noting that this was mainly a Japanese issue, Orbos said he told Japanese leaders that he trusts they "will be guided by the peace provision in your Constitution ...and is not an act of building up armament."

Orbos urged Japan to coordinate closely with other Asian nations while he noted that such move of Japan must push the Philippines into working double time to put the house in order.

He apparently was referring to the need for the country to develop its external defense capabilities.

"I expressed caution because whatever the reasons are, they must explain fully and coordinate closely with all nations in Asia. Such a first step of the Japanese government may invite overreaction from other players in the region. We want a new relationship and frame work to govern relations in Asia," Orbos said.

He said the sending of Japanese minesweepers to the Gulf and the bases issue are expected to be raised during the three-day state visit here of Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaiful starting May 4. This will also be raised in a regional security meeting in June.

Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong recently urged the continued presence of U.S. military facilities, citing their importance in maintaining regional security and stability.

Orbos said the Japanese realize that the stay of U.S. military facilities in the country cannot be permanent, but they have expressed desire for their continued presence for a certain period of time.

Asked about the desired "interim" duration, Orbos said, "I presume something that would be convenient for the region to come up with—a new security arrangement."

Orbos said there was some fear among the Japanese abaout regional security if the U.S. bases are dismantled.

He said the Japanese did not comment on the Philippine proposal for a $825-million annual compensation for a seven-year continued stay of U.S. military facilities in Philippine bases after Sept. 16, the end of the 1947 RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement, or the U.S. proposal for $400 million yearly for 10 to 12 years.

Indian President Arrives for Four-Day Visit

HK2904062091 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 29 Apr 91 pp 1, 9

[Text] Indian President Ramaswami Venkataraman arrived yesterday afternoon for a four-day official visit to the Philippines, the first by an Indian head of state since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1952.

Venkataraman, who arrived from a visit to Vietnam, was met at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus and other dignitaries.

He was later given a red carpet welcome and a 21-gun salute at Malacanang by President Aquino.

A large crowd of Indian residents was on hand at the palace to greet Venkataraman.

The 80-year-old Indian president is expected to confer Monday with Ms. Aquino and deliver a speech Tuesday at the University of the Philippines on the role of developing nations in the post-Cold War era.

On Wednesday, he is to meet with Indian officials of the Asian Development Bank, which is headquartered in Metro Manila, before his departure in the afternoon.

Venkataraman's talks with Mrs. Aquino is expected to focus on how India and the Philippines can best deal with emerging trade and security concerns in Asia after the Gulf War, diplomats said.

His trip coincides with the opening on Tuesday of a new round of negotiations between the Philippines and the United States on the future of American military bases in the country.

"Despite its domestic problems, India is keen to asset its position as a regional power at a time of more fluid security relations in Asia," said a Manila-based Asian diplomat.

The Philippines and India are likely to adopt a common stand in demanding war reparations for the dislocation and lost jobs for their overseas workers in Kuwait and Iraq because of the Gulf War.

The two countries are also expected to discuss how to exploit the job opportunities for Indian and Filipino workers in rebuilding Kuwait, officials said.

Both countries have asked the United Nations to help obtain reparations from Baghdad.

Venkataraman will also discuss with Ms. Aquino ways of boosting bilateral trade. Total trade between the two Asian countries amounted to only $78 million last year. The two heads of state are expected to sign an agreement on the peaceful use of atomic energy and a memorandum of understanding on agricultural cooperation.

Venkataraman's visit to Vietnam, the first by an Indian head of state for more than 30 years, helped reinforce relations with Hanoi's closest ally outside the Soviet bloc.

Venkataraman met Vietnam's Communist Party leader Nguyen Van Linh, Prime minister Do Muoi and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, and expressed support for Vietnam's stance on how to end the Cambodian conflict.

In a related development, Japan's Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu arrived in Kuala Lumpur to start his tour of five Southeast Asian countries, including the Philippines.

Officials said Ms. Aquino would propose to Kaifu when he visits here next weekend that Japan should coordinate with other Asian countries regarding his nation's possible security role.

Kaifu has assured Asian neighbors that Japan's military past would not be repeated.

Ramos Sworn In to LDP; Makes Statement

HK2804083691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Report by Correspondent Eloi Aquino]

[Excerpts] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos said today that the last test of a primary political party, leading the country, is more important than winning the 1992 presidential elections.

In his statement after being formally sworn in as a member of the Struggle of the Filipino Democrat [LDP], Ramos said that while political power may be seen in a party, no party has yet proven effective in running the country. All political parties, especially the Struggle of the Filipino Democrat, are confronted by this challenge. The defense secretary clarified that he joined the LDP because its platform is closest to the principles of government he believes in. He added that he joined the LDP because it is the party which can speed up progress of the country. Future successes depend on unity, support for national priorities in accordance with a single purpose, and the enforcement of a political will. The LDP, he said, has the chance to lead the Philippines in the decade of the 90's. [passage ommitted]

Others sworn in to the LDP are press secretary Tomas Buddy Gomez III, former agrarian reform secretary Philipi Juico, actor Ramon Revilla, Congressman Romulo Espaldon, and Don Ignacio. [passage ommitted]

Seeks Presidential Nomination

HK2904075591 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 29 Apr 91 p 6

[By staff member Johanna Son]

[Text] The Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [LDP—Struggle of Philippine Democrats] strived hard to present a veneer of unity in last Saturday's oath-taking ceremony.

But not even the "bridal march" that Speaker Ramon Mitra and Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos took side by side to the stage, amid pomp and band music, could dispel the tension between the two camps as they kicked off a bruising tussle for the LDP nomination.

The crowd of thousands roared as Mitra—playing his role as LDP founder—escorted Ramos through the Ultra gym for his oath-taking, much like a couple walking down a church aisle.

At a joint press conference later, Ramos and Mitra reiterated their vows that they would fight fair and square for the nomination, and that they would not allow a party split.

LDP officers, including president Sen. Neptali Gonzales and Metro Manila chairman Sen. Jose Lina Jr., stressed at Saturday's NCR [National Capital Region] regional assembly that the party ought to remain united and improve its organization.

This would ensure that the next Philippine president comes from the LDP, Gonzales said. Indeed, "the (candidate for) president you choose is going to be President in 1992," assured LDP secretary general Rep. Jose Cojuangco Jr.

LDP officials who organized the NCR regional assembly, upon agreement with the Ramos and Mitra camps, took pains to ensure that it did not become a contest between Ramos and Mitra and that no statements were made favoring either stalwart.

Officials said the meeting was held with the understanding that no propaganda material or activity pushing anyone's candidacy would be allowed, since the assembly was an oath-taking ceremony and a presentation of possible candidates to the public.

But letters from Mitra, soliciting NCR party members' support for the LDP nomination for the Presidency in 1992, found their way to delegates and the media.

"I write to tell you why I'm seeking our Party's nomination for the Presidency in 1992—and to solicit your support at the LDP convention and beyond," Mitra's flyers said.

"Only I, who helped put this great party together, can keep it united behind one winning national ticket in 1992," he continued. "A Mitra Presidency will be your Presidency."

A pamphlet detailing his poor beginnings and record in government, entitled 'Mitra: The Making of a Leader' accompanied the solicitation letter. (The pamphlet adds, "Early on, he caught malaria, then endemic to Palawan: until now he has chills whenever his energy level runs low.")

Ramos' camp reportedly felt the Mitra material violated the supposedly neutral character of the assembly. However, Ramos issued a statement saying he joined the LDP because "It stands close to the principles of government to which I subscribe."

Ramos, Mitra Battle for Support

HK2904085191 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 29 Apr 91 p 6

[By staff member Redempto Anda]

[Text] Taking the cue from President Aquino, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and Speaker Ramon Mitra started their battle for the support of local government officials belonging to the ruling Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [LDP—Struggle of Philippine Democrats]. Not only are the governors and mayors crucial in winning the party's nomination as its standard-bearer in next year's national elections, President Aquino will also anoint the candidate the local officials endorse.

Ramos, who formally joined the LDP during the party's Metro Manila convention last Saturday, made his pitch for the support of provincial governors as he batted for a more liberal version of the local government code Congress is presently debating.

Mitra, on the other hand, is confident of the support of most local officials, especially municipal mayors whom he proposed should be allowed to vote during the party's selection process for its presidential candidate.

At the press conference following the LDP convention, Ramos supported the Senate version of the local government code, which he described as more liberal in terms of granting more powers to local government units (LGUs). It, for example allows LGUs to retain 40% of local internal revenue collections.

"I call my program of local government autonomy the three Ds-decentralization, devolution and deregulation. As a general policy, LGUs must be given the power to organize, to develop, to utilize and to exploit their community resources," he said.

Rizal governor Reynaldo San Juan, a Ramos supporter, claimed that most members of the governor's league are supportive of the defense secretary. "Majority of the governors who I have talked to are for Ramos," he said during a press conference.

San Juan claimed that Gov. Rafael Colet of the vote-rich province of Pangasinan is for Ramos.

This was however denied by Rep. Hernando Perez, LDP spokesman and a Mitra supporter. He said that the Mitra camp is confident of the support of local officials.

"You should be wondering why Speaker Mitra has even proposed that municipal mayors be allowed to vote during the selection process," Perez said.

Perez, in an interview, also admitted that a split within the LDP between the Ramos and Mitra camps is possible as "the worse scenario." He, however, said that "most of us who are supporting Mitra vow to support whoever is chosen by the party."

Meantime, Perez explained that several Cabinet membeers failed to show up to take their oaths as new members to avoid being asked to resign their positions early.

Those who were reportedly set to join the LDP were justice secretary Franklin Drilon, environment and natural resources secretary Fulgencio Factoran and budget secretary Guillermo Carague.

"They may join later," he said. Apart from Ramox, only press Secretary Tomas Gomez, movie actor Ramon Revilla, local government undersecretary Rolleo Ignacio, Rep. Romulo Espaldon and former agrarian reform secretary Philip Juico showed up for the oath-taking.

Party sources, meantime, revealed that Factoran may decide to back out from the LDP membership. A former human rights lawyer, Factoran was reportedly being pressured by his colleagues not to join the LDP.

Vows Continued Support for Aquino

HK2804054291 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 26 Apr 91 p 26

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos vowed yesterday to concentrate his efforts as head of the Department of National Defense (DND) in support of President Aquino and the fight against insurgents while awaiting the decision of the administration party on his bid to become its presidential candidate.

Ramos reiterated the vow he made in 1989 to the Friends of Ramos (FOR), a nationwide multi-sectoral organization of his supporters and friends, which urged him to throw his hat for the presidency as he continue to receive more pledges of support from many groups in the country.

During the meeting with FOR leaders, Ramos said he is supporting President Aquino and her administration all-out in its remaining months.

Leaders of FOR from all over the country hold a whole-day meeting tomorrow to map out plans and activities in support of the defense secretary's presidential aspiration.

Raul Paredes, president of the Kiwanis Club of Manila, the first Kiwanis club in Asia, said Ramos deserves the support of the people so that together "we can continue the spirit of EDSA [Epifanio de los Gantos Avenue] Revolution and together work for the good of the country."

Replacement by De Villa Planned

HK2904082991 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 28 Apr 91 pp 1, 11

[By Danny C. Petilla]

[Excerpt] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos will resign from the Cabinet after joining the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [LDP—Struggle of Philippine Democrats] and Renateo S. de Villa, the former Armed Forces chief of staff, will replace him, a high-ranking Malacanang official said yesterday.

Ramos, who took his oath as a member of the LDP yesterday, will leave and De Villa will be appointed defense secretary by President Aquino as soon as De Villa arrives from the United States, the Palace official said.

The source could not say, however, when De Villa is returning. He is in the U.S. where his wife Monica is being treated for cancer.

De Villa, 56, a known Ramos protege, was AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief from Jan. 23, 1988 until last Jan. 22.

Interview at the ULTRA [University of Life Theatre and Recreation Arena] gymnasium where the LDP convention and the oath-taking were held, Ramos said he would resign from the Cabinet once the President had decided on his replacement.

The Palace official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Ramos will have to resign his Cabinet post on moral grounds.

And since Ramos was bent on running for president in the 1992 elections, he will have to resign anyway as soon as the official campaign period begins, the source said.

Lately, Ramos has been criticized for being able to enjoy the perquisites of the defense secretary's office while projecting himself as a presidential candidate.

"Out of propriety, he will have to resign now that he has formally joined a political party and has announced he is seeking a political office," the official said.

Policy Decision

The source said the Cabinet will soon make a policy decision requiring Cabinet officials to resign once they formally join a political party and decide to run for an elective position.

"The Cabinet is still discussing this issue but a major policy decision is expected to be arrived at soon," the Palace official said.

Earlier, Ms. Aquino told Cabinet members who wanted to join the LDP and run for public office that they were obliged to resign once they filed their certificates of candidacy, as her Cabinet members did during the 1987 congressional election period.

Apparently, the policy will be changed as the Cabinet members joining a political party will now be asked to resign outright. It was presumed that the act of joining a political party was a prelude to running for public office.

The source did not answer when asked if Ms. Aquino has asked Ramos and other Cabinet members who have joined the LDP to give up their posts.

But the source said other Cabinet officials who have joined a political party but have not yet announced their intention to run for political office may have to hold on to their posts.

The Difference

"Therein lies the difference," the source said.

Two Cabinet members, Executive Secretary Oscar M. Orbos and Local Government Secretary Luis T. Santos, are LDP members. But they were party members since they were congressmen.

Another Cabinet member who joined the LDP yesterday was Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III.

Justice Secretary Franklin M. Drilon was expected to formally join the LDP yesterday together with Ramos and Gomez but then backed off.

Drilon said there really is no law barring party members from being appointed to the Cabinet nor a law requiring Cabinet members to resign once they have joined a political party.

Asked about the case of Ramos, Drilon said, "It is now up to his discretion whether he would resign or not."

There was a clamor, particularly from some senators, that Ramos and other Cabinet officials who have joined the LDP resign their Cabinet posts to erase public suspicion that they will take advantage of their position and the resources of their office to further their political ambitions. [passage omitted]

Aquino Confirms Ramos Plans

HK2904142691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Report by Correspondent Dick Sinchongco]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today confirmed Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos' plan to resign from his position before the current year ends. The president said that while the date of his resignation has not yet been set, it has been hinted that he should vacate his post a few months before the end of this year or before the 1992 presidential elections campaign period starts. Meanwhile, the president said her office is currently looking at possible people who could replace Ramos, from among those who have decided to run in the upcoming polls. The president stressed that she will announce the defense chief's replacement in due time. She has not issued any policy regarding the other Cabinet members who are also aspiring for the 1992 elections. Earlier, Ramos stated he might resign from the Cabinet even before he submits his certificate of candidacy. Various quarters have strongly demanded the resignation of members of the president's official family who are planning to run in the elections due to the fear that they might exploit their positions in relation to the 1992 elections.

Senator Opposes De Villa Appointment

HK2904083191 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 29 Apr 91 pp 1, 8

[Text] Sen. Ernesto M. Maceda opposed yesterday Malacanang's plan to appoint the former Armed Forces chief of staff, Gen. Renato S. de Villa, as the replacement of Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos, who will resign from the Cabinet to run for president.

Maceda, chairman of the Senate committee on defense, said De Villa was not fit for the top defense post.

The senator cited several instances where he said De Villa "mishandled" various crises within the military. One was the siege of a military camp in Zamboanga City in January 1988 by a group of renegade policemen led by Rizal Alih.

The siege resulted in the death of Brig. Gen. Eduardo Batalla, the camp commander, and his aide.

Despite the fact that the camp was surrounded by the military, Alih escaped and remains at large today.

Maceda said other crises allegedly mishandled by De Villa included the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Savings and Loan Association funds mess and discontent among rebel soldiers.

"If Malacanang is bent on appointing a retired military general to succeed Ramos, why not Secretary (Rafael) Ileto, Foreign Undersecretary Manuel Yan, or Customs Commissioner Salvador Mison?" Maceda asked. "All these three have been civilianized enough."

He said Mison was the most qualified for the top post as well as the youngest among his choices.

President Aquino was reportedly eyeing De Villa to succeed Ramos who on Saturday formally joined the ruling Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] to boost his presidential plans for 1992.

De Villa, a known Ramos protege, was expected to be appointed to the post as soon as he arrives from the United States where his wife Monica is being treated for cancer. He held the top military post from January 1988 to last January, when he retired after 35 years in the military.

Ramos, who has been criticized for allegedly using his office to boost his political ambition, is expected to resign soon.

Such criticisms against Ramos will not be laid to rest with De Villa's appointment, Maceda argued.

"He is generally perceived as an alter ego of Ramos. How can he positively erase suspicions that Ramos would not use the DND [Department of National Defense] resources for his campaign?" he said.

He added that De Villa cannot carry out the reforms the Senate has been pushing to make possible a unified and strong military.

Earlier, Maceda supported Ms. Aquino in her decision to appoint Lt. Gen. Lisandro Abadia as AFP chief of staff despite strong criticisms from various quarters, including military generals who were bypassed with the appointment.

Abadia is expected to appear before the Commission on Appointments this week.

Presidential Aspirant Santiago Hurt in Car Crash

HK2904030691 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 29 Apr 91 pp 1, 8

[Text] Feisty Miriam Defensor Santiago, a presidential aspirant, was seriously injured yesterday morning in a car crash in Tarlac but is out of danger, her office manager said.

Santiago, who had described her presidential rivals as "political cockroaches" who lacked the will to fight corruption, was on her way to a speaking engagement in Pangasinan when her car was hit by another vehicle at about 10 a.m. in Moncada town.

"She was seriously injured in the head and her car was totally wrecked," her office manager Armi Sison said. "But her life is not in danger."

Santiago's spokesman, Antonio Santos, said his boss broke her three front teeth, suffered bruises in the legs and body, and cut her lip.

She was to undergo an X-ray to determine the extent of her injuries. Doctors at the Metropolitan hospital in Manila said Santiago will be under observation for 24 hours.

"The accident affects only the mortal body. It is a small price to pay for a good fight," the 45-year-old Santiago said in a statement issued by her spokesman.

Santiago's three companions in the car were also injured. Her sister-in-law, Margaret S. Defensor, suffered fractures in the head and body and was said to be in serious condition. Her driver Rollie Bautista, 28, and bodyguard Sgt. Roman Tigar, 40, suffered minor cuts.

Narciso Y. Santiago, husband of the former agrarian reform secretary and immigration commissioner, said his wife's maroon Nissan Maxima was heading north for Bayambang, Pangasinan, when it was bumped on the left rear side by a Mitsubishi Galant which was heading south.

The accident occurred on the intersection of the national highway and the railroad.

"My wife and her sister-in-law were badly injured because they were at the back seat," he said.

Santiago and her sister-in-law were rushed by a backup jeep to the Ramos hospital in Tarlac and transported by two helicopters to the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Medical Center in Quezon City at about 2:30 p.m. They were later taken by an ambulance to the Metropolitan hospital.

"I really like her guts. She was on a stretcher at the AFP Medical Center and I asked her if she's okay. She raised her right hand, fist clenched," Santiago's husband said.

He said that he will seek a thorough investigation of the accident.

Maj. Danilo Paras, assistant police chief of Tarlac, said the Mitsubishi Galant was driven by a certain Airman 1st Class Tibayan.

The Galant suffered a mechanical problem, Paras said. Both cars were totally wrecked.

Most public opinion polls indicate Santiago is the most popular candidate in the presidential election scheduled in May 1992.

NDF Broadcast Urges Continued Struggle

HK2804055691 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 26 Apr 91 p 22

[By Vic Vega]

[Text] The communist-dominated National Democratic Front (NDF) urged yesterday the people to carry on the 23-year-old revolutionary struggle as the NDF celebrated its 18th anniversay.

A spokesman of the NDF, identified only as "Ka [comrade] Frank," aired the call during a 20-minute clandestine radio broadcast over an unoccupied AM frequency. The broadcast lasted about 20 minutes. It disputed a statement by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) that the New People's Army (NPA) has suffered setbacks from AFP operations.

Military To Launch Operations Against NPA

HK2704073791 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] The military will launch two operations against the communist rebels in Marag Valley in Kalinga-Apayao this coming week. The military said that the mountainsides surrounding Marag Valley are where the last remaining forts of the New People's Army in Luzon are located.

Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Lisandro Abadia said that the two operations of the military against the communist rebels in Marag Valley include the development operation.

[Begin Abadia recording in English] We have a military operation and, in toto, this is a total operation which involves not only fighting the enemies but also developing the area, because in the final analysis, it is development that will win. [end recording]

Thailand

Reportage on Trade Dispute With United States

Anan Seeks Negotiations

BK2704031491 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Apr 91 p 3

[Text] Thailand will try to negotiate with the United States to avert American retaliatory trade measures, according to Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun.

He said yesterday Thailand still has six to seven months before the U.S. makes any decision to retaliate against the country's exports. Thailand will negotiate with the U.S. on the problem during this time.

Thailand had tried to compromise with the U.S. on several issues but the Trade Act gives the U.S. power to take unilateral action against its trading partners if it considers it has encountered unfair trade practices, Mr Anan said.

A highly-reliable Commerce Ministry source said yesterday Thailand could still petition the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade if the U.S. does enforce retaliatory measures under Section 301 of its Trade Act against Thailand.

The source said Thailand can appeal to GATT if the U.S. actions violate the agreement's spirit.

The U.S. has been using Section 301 as a weapon to threaten trading partners to open their door to U.S. products, he said.

"Once the weapon is fired, by listing us as the priority foreign country (PFC), it will become useless."

It is believed that once Thailand is listed as a PFC, the kingdom is unlikely to be targetted for retaliatory measures which would include a steep increase in taxation.

"Tax increases are something the U.S. does not want. The U.S. wants us only to accommodate its demand to protect its intellectual property rights," the source said.

Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on said the U.S. decision to classify Thailand as a PFC will not have any immediate impact on Thai exports but will lead the U.S. to speed up its decisions on probes into alleged unfair trade practices by Thailand.

The U.S. is expected to move up its decision on the copyright issue by one month from December to November and on patent by four months from March next year to November.

The U.S. administration is required by law to start investigating Thailand within 30 days once it lists the kingdom as the PFC.

It has to complete the investigation in six months, which can be extended by another three months provided there is progress in talks.

Mr Amaret said he has formally told U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills Thailand cannot accept the following U.S. requests:

—To push for the passage of amendment legislation of the Patent and the Trade Mark laws within the dates set by the U.S. because it would force the Thai Government to interfere with the legislation process.

—To provide patent protection for all U.S. products and give retroactive protection to all American drugs now on sale in other countries but not registered in Thailand.

The kingdom cannot accept these conditions because they will bind it to obligations not internationally accepted, which may jeopardise Thai positions in the Uruguay Round.

Mr Amaret said he had also told Carla Hills the Thai Government's intention to improve its intellectual property rights protection system for its own benefit in conformity with internationally-accepted standards.

Anan on U.S. 'Retaliation'

BK2704144691 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] The United States announced at 0100 today that Thailand, China, and India risk retaliation under Section 301. Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said that Section 301, under which Thailand and several other countries will be investigated, will not immediately affect Thailand. He said that Section 301 as announced by the United States does not prescribe an immediate retaliation against Thailand. Under the provision, there will be an investigation 30 days after the U.S. designation has been announced. The investigation will take six months. The prime minister has also said that we must inquire into our private sector to see if it is really Thailand's fault.

[Begin recording] [Anan, in progress] Well, we can attribute it to the businesses in Thailand, to the video tapes or pharmaceuticals business, for example. It also involves the private sector. We must look at what mistakes our private sector has made.

[Unidentified Correspondent] What shall we do about exports?

[Anan] There is no problem at the moment. As I have said already, we still have seven months more to deal with it. [end recording]

Foreign Minister on Trade Action

BK2704151691 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin on Thailand's designation for U.S. trade retaliation under Section 301 of the Trade Act by unidentified correspondent at the Bangpu Golf Course on 27 April—recorded]

[Text] [Asa] It will take effect seven to eight months from now.

[Correspondent] Not now?

[Asa] No, not now, but in about seven months. Well, during that time we will try to negotiate with the United States. We must try to solve the problem. The U.S. decision will be applied in seven or eight months if we cannot reach an agreement with them. In that event, the U.S. would evaluate the amount of damage it has suffered from our failure to protect U.S. intellectual property rights. For example, if the U.S. losses amounted to some 400 million dollars, the United States could raise import tariffs on our goods to bar them from entering U.S. markets. The United States is likely to apply this method of retaliation against us if no agreement is reached.

[Correspondent] What are we going to do now?

[Asa] We will discuss with them to see what we should do. There is one element that makes it impossible for us to concede to U.S. demands. It involves the GATT talks. We have already told the United States that we cannot take action beyond the bounds of GATT.

Asa Urges 'Reasonableness' on Patents

BK2804022891 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Apr 91 p A1

[Text] Foreign minister Asa Sarasin yesterday appealed for Thais not to be too emotional about the pharmaceutical patents issue following Thailand's designation as a "priority foreign country" by the United States Trade Representative [USTR].

He asked for reasonableness and wisdom "to judge where our national interests lie."

He said the US can take unilateral action against Thailand under Section 301 of the Omnibus Trade Act when it feels Thailand has not provided adequate intellectual property protection for US products.

He maintained the Government had taken the right course all along and had done its best to protect all national interests.

Dr Asa, however, said there is a breathing space for negotiations before the US actually retaliates, which might be through a tariff barrier on Thai exports to the US.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, meanwhile, said the USTR will send a delegation to Thailand to investigate the intellectual property protection situation.

He believes the situation might improve after discussions between Thai authorities and the US delegation. But he insisted Thailand's position that its national interest comes first must be maintained.

Asked if Thailand should retaliate against the US, the Prime Minister retorted: "Can you suggest how to retaliate?"

Meanwhile, the Students' Federation of Thailand [SFT] yesterday voiced opposition to amendments to the patent law to suit the US.

Although the move would avert US retaliation under Section 301, it would hurt the country in the long run, said SFT acting secretary-general Prinya Thewanarumitkun.

He asked the Commerce Ministry to be cautious in amending the patent law, particularly as regard sections 36, 36 and 46 which, he said, would allow foreign pharmaceutical manufacturers to monopolise the medicine trade in Thailand.

Commerce Minister on Retaliation

BK2904013991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Apr 91 pp 17, 28

[Text] Thailand is to review its policy towards the United States and is preparing to retaliate if identified as a priority foreign country.

Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on told a news conference yesterday Thailand's listing as a priority foreign country would not have an adverse effect on exports to the US, "excerpt to cause panic among Thai exporters and US importers".

Mr Amaret said Thailand would have to review its policy and attitude towards the US, including the amendment of laws providing protection for copyrights and patents, as well as its dependence on exports to the US. The two countries' trade, economic, social and political ties will also be reviewed.

"The Premier has said the US decision to name Thailand as a priority foreign country will affect bilateral relations between the two countries," he said. "But more negotiations are to be held.

"The Government will never agree to do what damages the country's interest in the long run."

Mr Amaret insisted yesterday that the US demands were unacceptable to the Thai Government as they would have an adverse effect on the country over the long term.

Washington has demanded that Thailand set a specific date for the National Legislative Assembly [NLA] to endorse the amendment of the Patent and Copyright Acts and that the Government provide protection for all innovations.

"The Government could not accept the first demand as it required the Government to interfere with the NLA. If we agreed to the second demand, then we would be agreeing to more than was covered by any other international agreement," he said.

Mr Amaret said everyone affected by the issue would be invited to a meeting to prepare a response."

"Because the US administration has decided to take action against us, we can retaliate. I will order the authorities to review our anti-dumping laws and the imposition of countervailing duties against US imports," he said.

The minister said the listing as a priority foreign country was merely a change of name from being on the priority watch list.

"Before Washington's latest decision, Thailand was being investigated under Section 301 (of the US Trade Act 1988) on two charges: of not actively suppressing copyright pirates and of not providing patent protection to pharmaceutical products," he said.

As a priority foreign country, the Section 301 action can be expanded to cover other issues.

"But the US Government has stated clearly that the investigations of Thailand will not be expanded."

The period for the investigations is not expected to be shortened.

"The investigation of the first issue must be finalised by December 1991 and the second by March 1992."

Mr Amaret said there would be no retaliatory trade action against Thai exports within the next seven months, based on the 30 days given to the US Trade representative to pursue the case and the six months of investigations and negotiations.

"I am optimistic the next round of negotiations will end positively if the US adopts a more rational approach," he said.

Patent Bill Committee Refuses To Bend

BK2804021191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Apr 91 p A2

[Text] The committee charged with reviewing the law governing patent protection of pharmaceutical products yesterday insisted that Thailand would not further yield to United States pressure, despite the threat of damaging trade sanctions being imposed on Thailand.

A source in the committee told THE NATION yesterday that Thailand had given "what it is prepared to give" in amending the existing law to better protect US pharmaceutical patents.

The proposed amendment to the law included the extension of the protection period for pharmaceutical patents from 15 to 20 years, the source said.

"There will be no changes in the proposed legal amendment already endorsed so far by the committee," the source said.

The source said the committee objected to the United States' handling of trade disputes with Thailand and the threat to use retaliatory measures.

Under the revised patent laws, pharmaceutical products that could be registered in Thailand must be newly-discovered products or products that have been registered in other countries no longer than 12 months.

"We (the committee) are worried that the prices of local pharmaceutical products, particularly basic drugs, will rise sharply after the new patent law is enacted," the source said.

The committee has agreed to set up a board to control the prices of pharmaceutical products to ensure fair pricing

Phonchai Matangkasombat, a member of the committee, said he was opposed to the proposed pharmaceutical patent protection law because it would disadvantage Thailand in the face of unfair competition from multinational pharmaceutical companies.

"We should delay the enactment of the new law as long as possible and at the same time try to strengthen our research and development capabilities in pharmacy to enable local pharmaceutical firms to compete with their foreign counterparts on equal terms," Pornchai said.

On Friday, US Trade Representative Carla Hills announced that the failure of Thailand to enforce copyright laws and its inadequate patent protection had led to its designation as a priority foreign country which could face punitive tariffs of up to 100 percent on some of its exports to the United States.

Drug Patent Law Change Urged

BK2904091991 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 29 Apr 91 pp 7, 10

[Text] According to Prayun Thaloengsi, the Board of Trade executive director, the Board of Trade has reminded the government several times that the Patent Law covering medical products should be amended despite opposition by many groups. He said everyone has national interests in mind and that the government will be the authority that weighs all the angles before the actual amendment.

Prayun said he felt no country in the world can do everything without compromise. It would be impossible for Thailand to wait until its production technology development reaches an acceptable level before making an amendment. Thailand is among the last developing countries that has not amended the patents law to comply with international standards; this will adversely affect the country in the long term.

Prayun said an adverse effect of Thailand refusing to protect medical product patents is that some medical producers will be forced out of business, thus directly affecting the price of medicines. He said data should be available about which producers copy which types of medicines from what countries, about production costs, and about probable loss of benefits and increases in medicine prices to facilitate the government in making decisions. Prayun said he is confident the problem can be resolved because the impact will not occur for another four to five years

Regarding the impact on trade if Thailand refuses to give protection to medicine patents, Prayun noted that the U.S. market accounts for 20 percent of Thai exports, and loss of this market would immediately affect exporters and manufacturers as well as the overall national economy because Thailand is more dependent on export earnings than before. Eventually it is the general public who will suffer.

Prayun said expression of support or opposition to an amendment of the patent law is not an issue of right and wrong, because no one intends to protect foreign interests. Therefore, it is not right for one to label others as traitors or unpatriotic simply because their views are different.

Exporters Told Not To 'Panic'

BK2904003591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Apr 91 p B1

[Text] Thai exporters to the United States have been advised to go about their business as normal and not to panic about the designation of Thailand as a "priority country" under U.S. trade rules, which means trade barriers can be raised against Thai goods as a retaliatory measure.

Thailand was included on the "priority country watchlist" by the U.S. Trade Representative [USTR] on Saturday morning after three days of talks earlier in the week in Amsterdam failed to resolve the crucial issues of patent protection and intellectual property rights.

In an attempt to calm fears that Thailand's top exports might face more formidable barriers to the American market, commerce ministry officials said the inclusion of Thailand on the shortlist would not have any immediate effect on the country's external trade.

They pinned high hopes on the USTR Ambassador Carla Hills' remark on Saturday, when she made the announcement, that the trade office would resort to negotiation rather than retaliation. "The imposition of trade sanctions is not inevitable or desirable," she said.

The officials said Thailand still has seven months to make improvements to its intellectual property right protection laws that would lead to the country being dropped from the list. The USTR can remove a country from the shortlist at any time, they said.

The designation of Thailand, India and China under the Special Section 301 of the U.S. Trade Act of 1988 will require the USTR to negotiate and initiate cases against these countries within 30 days and start investigation immediately thereafter. The investigation must be completed in six months or extended to nine months if the process proves complicated.

By that time, the USTR may decide to retaliate by means of banning imports from the target countries, setting import quotas, raising import tariffs as high as 100 per cent, or removing the countries' Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) status.

These punitive measures, separately or collectively, will be used to compensate for revenue lost because of intellectual property right infringement in the target countries.

In the case of Thailand, the USTR estimated the damage from the pirating of American copyrights and pharmaceutical patents was worth some US$200 million (Baht 5 billion) annually.

Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said over the weekend that he believed the disputes would be resolved in an amicable manner. Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on and Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin also expressed optimism that the government would be able to convince the USTR to drop Thailand from the target list before any retaliatory measures were initiated.

The officials agreed that if these measures were used, Thai exports might be less competitive than the same products from other countries which do not face retaliation.

According to the country's export targets, the top ten export items to the U.S. this year will be electronic and electrical parts (Baht 112.1 billion), textiles (Baht 101.2 billion), gems and jewellery (Baht 43.05 billion), canned and processed seafood (Baht 26.6 billion), shoes and parts (Baht 26.5 billion), rice (Baht 26 billion), rubber (Baht 24 billion), frozen shrimp (Baht 22 billion), plastic products (Baht 9 billion) and frozen chicken and chicken products (Baht 8.5 billion).

The first five products have been heavily dependent on the U.S. market. If the import duties are raised on these products, their competitiveness and attractiveness to consumers would be eroded significantly, they said.

Aran Ninkamhaeng, director of the Thai Trade Centre in New York who was in Chiang Mai over the weekend to participate in a seminar, said he was confident that the government would try to mend the trade rift with Washington and abort any retaliatory action.

U.S. 'Retributions' Criticized

BK2804100991 Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 27 Apr 91 p 5

[Column by Tamolo: "War on Intellectual Property"]

[Text] U.S. retributions against Thailand for failure to protect U.S. intellectual property rights is reaching an explosive point. The countries are like two trains heading for collision. The United States wanted Thailand to enact a trademark law before 31 July and a patent law before 1 October this year. Thailand could not comply with the U.S. demands. It is therefore certain Thailand will face U.S. retaliation under Section 301.

In fact, Thailand has made several concessions to please the United States so long as national interests are maintained. It has agreed to amend the copyright, trademark, and patent laws. But the United States wants all its demands fulfilled. Thailand cannot agree because we are not a U.S. protectorate. Moreover, a total capitulation would block Thailand's progress and make the Thai people suffer hardship.

I praise Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on and concerned authorities for the decision made. In that manner, we have preserved our dignity as an independent country and safeguarded the economic future of Thailand.

U.S. retalitation under Section 301 will only affect some quarters of Thai exports. This should not be a big problem. On the contrary, it should serve to harden Thailand in doing its business, and Thailand must try to improve its production and marketing process to compete in other countries. Thailand must stop being a "baby" in the care of the United States, and must now stand on its own feet as an adult.

Thailand will not suffer alone. The United States will also have to suffer, and even for a longer time. The United States will certainly have to pay higher prices for imports. What is unaccounted for is the U.S. loss of what it once had—a friendly feeling from the Thai people for the American people. From now on it will seem like we are standing on the opposite side of the river trying to protect our own interests. It is a pity.

Commerce Minister Ameret Sila-on stated to reporters: "Thailand may have to think whether it is necessary to have the same kind of law to retaliate against the United States."

He was completely right. This is the first time the Thai Government ever made its stand clear. Instead of allowing the United States to make demands unilaterally, Thailand must have some kind of retaliatory measure. The United States should learn to suffer now, and it may have to suffer more because it has already suffered deficits in bilateral trade with Thailand. Moreover, U.S. goods imported by Thailand are not essential goods, and Thailand can import from other sources.

So with the same kind of retaliation, Thailand will make the United States suffer more. The campaign against American cigarettes may resume. The war on intellectual property is a protracted war. If a country is not strong, it risks losing everything.

The crux of the issue of U.S. intellectual property concerns pharmaceutical patents. Thailand has sufficiently conceded to U.S. demands in this area. It has agreed to give protection to registered pharmaceutical patents, but this would not be retroactive. The United States insisted that protection should be given to old and new formulas alike. Thailand rejected it because that would mean sacrificing the fate of poor people in Thailand at the expenses of selfish demands from the United States. If we yield to the U.S. demand, the Thai people will have to pay very high prices for medicine and the local pharmaceutical industry would collapse.

By giving protection to new patents, Thailand realized this would halt the growth of local pharmaceutical industry for at least 10 years.

It is too cruel, friends.

Anan Meets Cambodian Resistance Leaders

BK2604125291 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Statement to correspondents by Deputy Foreign Minister Wichian Watthanakhun at Government House on 26 April—recorded]

[Text] The prime minister informed the three Cambodian faction leaders that the Thai Government wants to see peace truly materialize in Cambodia. He said this government supports the peace proposal of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and the ongoing efforts by the cochairmen of the Paris international conference to organize a meeting between the four Cambodian factions, the so-called the Supreme National Council, in Jakarta. The prime minister said he hopes that the Jakarta meeting will be convened soon and that all four Cambodian factions will participate. He said the Thai Government fully supports this meeting so that genuine peace will be realized and so that economic restoration will take place in neighboring Cambodia.

Reportage on Visit of Cambodian Leader Hun Sen

Arrives 27 Apr

BK2704095291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0944 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Bangkok, April 27 (AFP)—Phnom Penh Premier Hun Sen arrived here Saturday on an official two-day visit for talks with his Thai counterpart Anan Panyarachun.

Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin was to host a dinner Saturday for Mr. Hun Sen, who last week flew from Phnom Penh to Tokyo via Bangkok for medical treatment in Japan, ministry officials said.

The Cambodian leader is to hold talks with Mr. Anan on Sunday before leaving for Phnom Penh.

Mr. Hun Sen's meeting with Mr. Anan will take place one day after the Thai prime minister met with leaders of the three Cambodian resistance factions, who have agreed to attend peace talks next month in Jakarta organized by the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC).

The two non-communist resistance leaders—Prince Norodom Rannaridh, son and representative of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, and Son Sann—and Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan have accepted a cease-fire call by the PICC chairmen.

Meets With Army Commander

BK2804152191 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Today at 1330, Army Secretary Major General Anuson Kritsanaserani briefed newsmen about the meeting between Phnom Penh Leader Hun Sen and Army Commander General Suchinda Khraprayun. He said that after arriving in Bangkok from a visit to Japan, Phnom Penh Leader Hun Sen called on Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, Supreme Commander General Sunthon Khongsomphong, and General Suchinda Khraprayun.

The Army secretary said Hun Sen's meeting with Gen. Suchinda was simply a courtesy call. The two did not discuss any important matters. The visit was planned because the two persons know each other. The Army commander told Hun Sen that his main wish is to see peace in the region, not only in Cambodia but also in

Vietnam, in addition to development and progress in those countries as they are neighbors of Thailand.

Received by Prime Minister

BK2804152991 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Statement by Sarot Chawanawirat, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] The meeting today was a courtesy call on the prime minister by Phnom Penh Leader Hun Sen, the first such meeting since the prime minister took office. The prime minister had met all of the other Cambodian factions and today he met the last of the four factions. During today's discussion, the prime minister started by saying that the present Thai Government upholds the major principles in the Cambodian policy adopted by the previous government. All major principles concerning the settlement of the Cambodian problem will be pursued by the present government. But because the present government in Thailand is an interim government, the prime minister therefore has no new proposal for Mr. Hun Sen. The Thai Government, he said, upholds the framework under the agreement reached by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. Nevertheless, Thailand will not remain idle, but is ready to provide cooperation whenever it can and within the framework of ongoing efforts pursued by the cochairmen, that is, Indonesia and France.

Mr. Hun Sen thanked Thailand for accepting the proposal on the temporary cease-fire made by the United Nations and the cochairmen. He suggested that he would like to see an end to the arms supplies to all factions in Cambodia. The prime minister told Mr. Hun Sen that this is also what Thailand would like to see. Thailand believes the best way to pursue a settlement should be within the framework of the UN draft agreement because the plan already proposed the establishment of a mechanism to ensure the implementation of the peace plan.

Interviewed on Anan Meeting

BK2904005591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Apr 91 pp A1, A2

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun yesterday warned the Cambodian factions that the world was getting fed up with their 12-year-old conflict and urged them to come to a settlement as soon as possible.

The premier made the point during a meeting at his house with Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen, Sarot Chawanawirat, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Affairs Department, told reporters.

Anan noted that if the Cambodian conflict could be resolved before October, Cambodia's representatives could attend the World Bank annual meeting to be held in Bangkok and would have the opportunity to obtain foreign assistance to help reconstruct their country.

In a separate interview, Hun Sen said that he had a good one-hour meeting with the premier and was pleased with Thailand's support for the ceasefire agreement that was endorsed by all Cambodian groups last week.

"What is important is that the prime minister supported very strongly the agreement and acceptance of a ceasefire, and we are very pleased to receive such endorsement from Thailand," Hun Sen told reporters.

In regards to the problem of continued outside military support, the Cambodian leader said that when the ceasefire agreement is accepted most arms supplies would be useless.

"Anyone who (wants) to further provide military assistance probably would like to see fighting continue," said Hun Sen, who was here for a three-day visit on his way back to Phnom Penh from Tokyo.

Hun Sen held discussions with senior Japanese foreign ministry officials in Tokyo last week.

Sarot said that Anan had rejected Hun Sen's call to link the ceasefire with a moratorium on arms supplies.

Anan pointed out that Thailand backed the arms moratorium as part of a comprehensive agreement under the UN peace plan, worked out by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Thailand is the main conduit for arms transfers from China to the Khmer Rouge, the strongest of the three resistance factions seeking to topple the Phnom Penh government.

"The cessation of arms supplies should be under the comprehensive agreement because there (would be) a monitoring mechanism," Sarot said.

He said that the ceasefire beginning May 1 was aimed at creating a conducive atmosphere for peace talks scheduled to be held in Jakarta either at end of May or in early June.

Hanoi called for a cessation of outside military aid after the Cambodian factions accepted the temporary ceasefire, which was called for by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and France and Indonesia, co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia.

During the discussion with Hun Sen, Anan stressed that a meeting of all the Cambodian factions was crucial and should be carried out as soon as possible.

Sarot said Hun Sen expressed readiness to attend the Jakarta meeting although he has a few reservations about the UN plan.

Phnom Penh is reluctant to accept the UN plan in its entirety for fear that the disarmament of the government troops would lead to the return of the Khmer Rouge, which is held responsible for the killing of at least hundreds of thousands of Cambodians during its reign of terror during 1975-78.

Hun Sen also met yesterday with top military leaders heading the National Peacekeeping Council, including Army Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun and Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong.

A military spokesman said that during his meeting with Hun Sen, Suchinda urged the Cambodian factions to stop fighting as soon as possible to bring about peace in the region.

Hun Sen is scheduled to fly back to Phnom Penh this morning.

The talks in May are to focus on the government's objections to a UN Security Council peace plan.

The guerrillas have fully accepted the plan, under which the United Nations would supervise a formal cease-fire and be extensively involved in the country's civil and military affairs in the period before elections.

The Cambodian government has insisted among other things that the UN plan include specific measures to prevent the return to power of the Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge massacred hundreds of thousands of people with radical agrarian policies when it ruled.

Received by Asa Sarasin

BK2804070791 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun held talks with Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen at the prime minister's residence on Soi Paidi Madi, Sukhumwit Road following his meeting with the leaders of the resistance force on Friday to push for peace in Cambodia. After his meeting with the Thai prime minister, Hun Sen is scheduled to call on Army Commander in Chief General Suchinda Khraprayun at his residence.

Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said that Hun Sen had met with him earlier and had reaffirmed his support for a temporary cease-fire in Cambodia starting 1 May to pave the way for the upcoming meeting of the Supreme National Council to be held in Indonesia in May.

Ministry Rejects SRV Offer To Cut Arms Flow

BK2804014791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Apr 91 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] With the first ceasefire in the 12-year Cambodian war set to go into effect on Wednesday, Vietnam proposed to Thailand and Laos to let an international monitoring body verify that weapons are not sent through the three countries to the warring factions.

Vietnam's proposal was, however, rejected by Thailand.

Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said last night that the moratorium on arms supplies to the four warring factions must be a part of a comprehensive solution to the Cambodian problem.

"Vietnam reaffirms its readiness, together with Laos and Thailand, to ensure that no foreign countries use their territories to transport weapons to the Cambodian factions and its readiness to put this under international supervision and control," a Foreign Ministry statement said yesterday.

It appealed to "all sides concerned to back the appeal for a temporary ceasefire made by the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the secretary-general of UN and to stop providing military aid to the Cambodian factions, in order to create favourable conditions for the coming meeting of the Supreme National Council." [passage omitted]

Vietnam

U.S. To Provide $1 Million in Humanitarian Aid

BK2604120891 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] According to AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE, on 25 April, Mr Richard Solomon, assistant U.S. secretary of state in charge of East Asia and Pacific affairs, said that the United States would give U.S. $1 million in humanitarian aid to Vietnam in an attempt to improve bilateral relations. This amount of money will be used to manufacture artificial limbs for veterans wounded during the war in Vietnam.

A U.S. diplomat said that this is the first time since the end of the Vietnam war in 1975 that the U.S. Government has given aid to this country. Addressing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mr. Solomon disclosed that this decision was advanced as an effort by John Vessey, U.S. President Bush's special envoy, concerning the issue of prisoners and Americans missing in Vietnam, and is aimed at settling humanitarian problems between the two countries.

VNA Reports First Aid Since War

BK2704104191 Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 27—U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Richard Solomon was quoted by AFP as stating in Washington on April 25 that the United States will extend one million dollars in humanitarian aid to Vietnam as part of its efforts to improve bilateral ties.

American diplomat further said the money was to be used to pay for artificial limbs for Vietnamese war wounded.

AFP also quoted another U.S. State Department official as saying that this will mark the first time since the end of the Vietnam war in 1975 that the U.S. Goverment sent aid to Vietnam.

U.S. Senate Testimony on Normalization Cited

BK2704034391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] On 25 April, the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee's East Asian and Pacific Affairs subcommittee held testimony on prospects for normalization of relations with Vietnam. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Solomon attended the testimony as a representative of the Bush administration.

At the testimony, the Bush administration representative presented the process toward normalizing relations with Vietnam. Speaking at the testimony, Senator McCain, recently returned from a visit to Vietnam and Cambodia, said: The United States should have its shopworn hostility replaced with friendship. Senator M. McCloskey, who had introduced a bill to lift the embargo against Vietnam, asked the Bush administration to separate the Cambodian issue from the normalization of relations with Vietnam.

Representives of the business circles at the testimony also supported the idea of normalizing trade relations with Vietnam. Mr. (Ian Acey), representive of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, called on the U.S. Congress to lift the sanctions against the trade of nonstrategic goods and to allow investments in Vietnam.

Foreign Ministry Urges Cambodia Cease-Fire

BK2704121991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1115 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Text] Today, 27 April, the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam issued the following statement:

On 22 April, the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] and the UN secretary general called on all Cambodian factions to observe a temporary cease-fire in the war from 1 May at least until the end of the Jakarta meeting of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC].

On 24 April, the Government of the State of Cambodia declared that it welcomes this call, considering it a contribution to the process of peace in Cambodia that meets the aspirations of the people and Government of the State of Cambodia.

The government and people of Vietnam welcome the call by the PICC cochairmen and UN secretary general and highly appreciate the 24 April statement of the Government of the State of Cambodia. Vietnam maintains that the cease-fire in Cambodia will constitute an important and practical step in contributing to reaching an equitable and rational comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian issue at an early date.

To ensure that the cease-fire in Cambodia is scrupulously observed and paves the way for a permanent cease-fire, it is necessary for all foreign countries to halt their military aid to all Cambodian factions in accordance with the Soviet-U.S. initiative, as proposed by Vietnam in its 28 February statement.

Vietnam affirms once again that it is ready to join Laos and Thailand in pledging not to allow other countries to use its terrority to transport arms to various Cambodian factions and is ready to do so under international control and supervision.

Vietnam calls on all countries and parties concerned to support the call for a temporary cease-fire by the PICC cochairmen and UN secretary general, as well as to put an end to all military aid to various Cambodian factions with the aim of creating a favorable climate for the forthcoming SNC meeting and paving the way for a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian issue in conformity with the legitimate interests of the Cambodian people, as well as with the interests of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and the world.

[Dated] 27 April 1991

Radio Calls For Efforts To Implement Cease-Fire

BK2804121191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Station Commentary]

[Text] It is one week now since the two cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] and the UN Secretary General called on all Cambodian factions to observe a temporary cease-fire from 1 May at least until the end of the Jakarta meeting of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] to be held in mid-May. World public opinion welcomed the Cambodian factions' positive response to the cease-fire after waiting anxiously for their reaction. Particularly, the Government of the State of Cambodia in its 24 April statement welcomed and supported the call made by the two cochairmen of the PICC and the UN Secretary General. Afterward, the Sihanouk and Son Sann factions also welcomed and accepted the proposed cease-fire.

Meanwhile, in Bangkok on 26 April, Mr. Khieu Samphan, leader of the Khmer Rouge, after having lunch with Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, said that he also accepted the cease-fire.

We welcome the positive response made by the Cambodian factions to the cease-fire proposal in anticipation of the convening of the SNC meeting.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of the international community concerned, a consensus was reached for the difficult, complicated process to resolve the Cambodian issue. It is necessary to mention here that the SNC was established in September 1990 in Jakarta and was recognized by the Cambodian factions and countries and international organizations concerned as the sole legal organ of authority representing the independence and sovereignty of Cambodia during the transition period. This is in conformity with the UN Charter, which stipulates that the internal issues of any one country must be settled by its own people. As a result, the SNC should be convened to discuss measures to resolve the pending issues. To ensure success for the SNC meeting, it is necessary, first of all, to stop the civil war and lay down arms before sitting at the negotiating table. Only by holding talks will it be possible to settle differences and implement national reconciliation. The fact that the

Cambodian factions accepted the 22 April joint statement on the cease-fire of the UN secretary general and the two co-chairmen of the PICC is good news not only for the Cambodian people but also for the world people, especially people in Southeast Asia, who earnestly wish for a quick settlement of the Cambodian issue. This will benefit the Cambodian people themselves while promoting peace and stability in Southeast Asia. People in the region welcomed and highly praised the Cambodian factions' decision to accept the cease-fire even though it is a temporary one.

In fact, the Government of the State of Cambodia has called for a cease-fire before implementing national reconciliation. In its 24 April statement, the Government of Cambodia stressed its delight over and the Cambodian people's support for the joint statement on the cease-fire made by the UN secretary general and the two co-chairmen of the PICC.

The Cambodian issue is a complicated one that must be settled step by step. Implementing the cease-fire from 1 May is a very important step that will create a favorable condition for further developing steps. Together with peoples of other nations, the Vietnamese people hope that the Cambodian factions will implement the cease-fire in a true and serious manner, thereby helping to bring peace to the nation that has suffered great losses caused by the war and genocide.

Alliance Francaise To Open Office in Hanoi

BK2604150391 Hanoi VNA in English 1300 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 26—The Vietnamese Government has agreed to the opening of a representative office of "Alliance Francaise" in Hanoi.

The relevant memorandum was signed by Bui Xuan Nhat, head of the Department for Economic and Cultural Cooperation, and French Ambassador Claude Blanchemaison.

Australia

Defense Ties With Indonesia Said 'Recovered'

BK2604113991 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 26 Apr 91

[From the program "International Report"]

[Text] Australia's defense minister, Senator Robert Ray, says Canberra's defense relationship with Indonesia has recovered and is now operating on a new basis. Senator Ray says a steady partnership has been built over the past four years following Indonesia's termination of the previous defense cooperation agreement.

The break was one result of the diplomatic controversy in 1986 following an Australian newspaper article on the business dealings of the Suharto family. At the end of his first visit to Jakarta, Senator Ray spoke to Graeme Dobell about Australia's military relationship with Indonesia.

[Begin recording] [Ray] I think the key to it is a degree of military transparency. Both Indonesia and Australia understand how each armed forces are constructed and what their future intent is. It makes you much more easier—you get on along a lot easier than may be the case in the past. And that is sort of what has developed in the past four years. A lot of bilateral visits by senior defense officials and servicemen, each explaining where their defense policy is going. It is on that basis that, I think, relations between us are now very cordial.

[Dobell] How well is that relationship recovered from the problems in the mid 80's when Indonesia scrapped the formal defense relationship with Australia?

[Ray] I think it has recovered very well, but it is really on a different basis. It is no longer on our defense cooperation program, but more on a partnership program—exchanges between staff colleges, etc. And, I think, that is definitely the way Indonesia wants the relationship to continue, where we do things in partnership.

[Dobell] Both you and the Indonesian defense minister said there was no need for any formal relationship. Why is that?

[Ray] Well, I don't know that formal relationships are any better than informal and I think he is too scared that we broke informal relationships.

[Dobell] If you are talking about transparency, though, would that not give you some wider framework to work on transparency?

[Ray] Well, unless there is something wrong with the current system, but it is working well. What I am saying is that I [word indistinct], I fix it.

[Dobell] In terms of things like the current naval passage exercises prepared by some Australian ships to pass through Indonesia, do you see any area for expanding that? Would you like to see, for instance, joint air exercises or even eventually, joint land exercises?

[Ray] I think that is the direction we are heading, but we have to do it on (?a test and study) basis and I am not (word indistinct) for a revolutionary change, probably too much at one time. What I prefer at this stage and I think Minister Murdani does too, is for the chief of the Defense Forces and the Service Chiefs to make those arrangements and for us to give him the tick, rather than us as ministers have to get together on it. They worked very well at that level.

[Dobell] When you were in Jakarta, you were questioned by the Indonsian media about the threat perceptions and why some Australians seem to regard Indonesia, I think [words indistinct], as a monster? How did you respond to any of the Indonesian concerns for Australia to see Indonesia as a threat.

[Ray] I think I pointed out that the basis for that question was based on a survey. Much less than a quarter of Australians identified Indonesia as a threat and I just assured them that wasn't government policy and it's not. Australia can only be threatened from one area, and that is to the north. And I (?do not) confuse that concept with Indonesia.

[Dobell] Indonesia said that your talks had touched on some areas such as the Australian media in the way Australian journalists cover Indonesia. And in fact, one of the journalists who applied to go to Jakarta to cover your trip was refused a visa because of his previous reporting. How much of an influence on the talks were those Indonesian concern?

[Ray] It is only a small part, just in passing. Indonesia is a sovereign country. They determine who will come to their country the same as we do. I know that well as an immigration minister. One of the things I said is that occasionally if a journalist writes provocative stories, they do so, simply wanting to be provocative and get a reaction, and thereby becoming news themselves. It is not a process I endorse. Reporters are there to report the news, not become the news.

[Dobell] In conclusion then, what is your view on the state of the relationship given the discussions that you had in Jakarta?

[Ray] I think it was very cordial. I think there is a great degree of trust between the two countries and I think there is an enormous potential, not only in the defense area, but in the whole range of areas. And the Timor Gap is a perfect example where we can get on as good neighbors. [end recording]

Evans Backs Decision Regarding Envoy to Ireland

BK2804074091 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Australia's foreign affairs minister, Gareth Evans, has again defended the government's decision not to suspend the country's ambassador to Ireland, Brian Burke. The federal opposition had been calling for Mr. Burke's suspension since serious allegations were made against him before a high-level inquiry into the West Australian state government's past business dealings. However, the government has said unproven allegations are not enough to warrant the suspension of Mr.Burke, a former West Australian premier.

Senator Evans today again defended the decision while rejecting a suggestion by Mr. Burke that he had not been suspended because of his special relationship with the government. However, he told the television interviewer that the government was continuing to weigh out Mr. Burke's future as the West Australian inquiry received more media coverage in Ireland.

[Begin Evans recording] It is getting more publicity now than it was up until just a few days ago, and that will be a consideration [words indistinct] and Brian Burke [words indistinct] take into account. He has made clear right from the outset that if it feels that his capacity to do his job not only physically but in terms of the general environment in Ireland is such that it is just impossible, well then, he will make a decision accordingly. We will keep the whole thing under very close review obviously as it [words indisctinct] over the next few days and weeks. [end recording]

New Zealand

French Prime Minister Rocard Arrives for Visit

BK2904003491 Hong Kong AFP in English 2219 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Wellington, April 29 (AFP)—French Prime Minister Michel Rocard arrived here Monday on a visit designed to create a new era in relations between France and New Zealand.

Mr. Rocard was welcomed at Auckland Airport by New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger.

The two planned to hold lengthy talks later in the day to put behind them the 1985 sinking by French agents of the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior in Auckland Harbour.

Speaking Sunday night Mr. Bolger said the affair was unfortunate and a "sad component of the relationship between New Zealand and France but we mustn't dwell on it endlessly."

Mr. Rocard is scheduled to meet members of Greenpeace in Christchurch Tuesday. He is also due to sign an agreement establishing a friendship fund recommended by a United Nations Arbitration Panel, for which Paris will provide two million U.S. dollars.

Mr. Bolger and Mr. Rocard were also to discuss French policy in the Pacific and the possibility of increased cooperation, the progress of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiations on liberalising world agricultural trade, opportunities for import-export initiatives and the future of the Antarctic.

French nuclear testing at Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia is also on the agenda.

In an interview with the DOMINION newspaper published Monday, Mr. Rocard defended the French nuclear deterrent and could not give a firm indication of when nuclear testing in the Pacific would end.

"I can swear that when international conditions are such that disarmament can be achieved by the major military powers and we have peace and security throughout the planet, France will not waste one minute in beginning to stop its nuclear capacity," he said.

"Are you sure it is intelligent to renounce the weapons that create the fear of war and to go back to the level of armaments that politicians and generals have never hestitated to use?" He was quoted as asking.

Mr. Rocard said Iraqi President Saddam Husayn "had no nuclear weapons and could not fear any, and there you had war...", the DOMINION reported.

He said of France's nuclear deterrent: "We feel at peace because no one can touch us, and through this peace yours is guaranteed too."

Admits Rainbow Warrior Error

BK2904025291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0225 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Wellington, April 29 (AFP)—French Prime Minister Michel Rocard Monday toasted a new era in relations between France and New Zealand admitting France had done wrong over the 1985 bombing of a Greenpeace ship here.

Mr. Rocard arrived earlier Monday in New Zealand on a two day visit prior to flying onto South Korea.

New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger and Mr. Rocard signed a friendship agreement between the two countries. In speeches both men declared a new era in relations and promised increased regional co-operation.

At a luncheon Mr. Rocard proposed a toast, saying: "France has done wrong. I have said so publicly and I am saying so again here."

French spies blew up the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland Harbour six years ago, just before it was due to sail to the French nuclear test site at Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia.

Mr. Rocard said it was his wish that his visit—the first by a French premier to New Zealand—would open a new era in relations and give a "renewed boost to co-operation between our countries."

Mr. Bolger responded by saying mr. Rocard's visit was an historic occasion.

"We close a sad and thankfully short chapter in our shared history, and we move forward to address the challenges of our times in a positive and cooperative fashion," Mr. Bolger said.

Mr. Bolger said New Zealand would continue to express "strong opposition" to France's nuclear tests.

Mr. Rocard is scheduled to meet members of Greenpeace in Christchurch Tuesday. He is also due sign an agreement establishing a friendship fund recommended by a United Nations arbitration panel, for which Paris will provide two million U.S. dollars.

Earlier in an interview with Wellington's DOMINION newspaper Mr. Rocard said France respected New Zealand's position but Paris remained convinced that nuclear deterrence had played an essential role in keeping world peace for 40 years.

"It will continue to do so until a significant change is brought about in the international situation ... We consider it necessary to maintain the level of our deterrent capability."

"Are you sure it is intelligent to renounce the weapons that create the fear of war and to go back to the level of armaments that politicians and generals have never hesitated to use?" He was quoted as asking.

Warns Cairns Group on Pressure

BK2904091491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0840 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Wellington, April 29 (AFP)—France is tough enough to continue to resist pressure to change "in the wrong direction" over agriculture trade reform, French Prime Minister Michel Rocard said here Monday.

Speaking in English to a business group here, he was sharply critical of Japan's stance at negotiations over the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

On the first visit by a French premier here, trade has featured high in talks with New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger.

New Zealand, a member of the Cairns group of primarily agricultural exporters, has been urging the European Community (EC) to cut back on export subsidies to European farmers.

Despite the failure in December to reach a conclusion to the Uruguay round of GATT talks, Mr. Rocard said reform was in progress.

But he added, "We shall continue, of course, to attach the utmost importance to the well-being of our farmers, particularly the poorer ones."

Protecting French farmers was too fundamental to allow France to be pressured on agriculture. "We are tough enough to resist any pressure to change in the wrong direction," he said.

France would accept nothing that would "destroy our own peasantry," he said.

Mr. Rocard said the rancorous atmosphere surrounding the farm issue had been "very bad" for the trade talks and the dispute needed to be resolved away from the public limelight.

He said isolating the farm issue in trying to achieve an overall agreement "is just a silly idea which blocks the solution."

He said the EC was not of a protectionist nature and had no protectionist ambitions.

"On the contrary, we do believe in the extension of free exchange," Mr. Rocard said.

"The myth of the European fortress is a very good communications slogan invented by Japanese which spread fast but which has no reality to it," he said.

He said the "record" for farm subsidies remained with countries "silent and quite hidden in the last GATT negotiations: Japan, Switzerland, Sweden, Austria... They are the most highly protected countries in terms of agriculture."

"The United States and the (European) Community behave much better," he added.

He said he regretted that "New Zealand and a few other countries creating the Cairns group ... Have chosen to be more extreme than the United States in criticising the poor (European) Community."

U.S. farm subsidies covered about 20 per cent of the value of agricultural production, EC subsidies about 30 per cent, and the Japanese and the Swiss more than 50 per cent. New Zealand subsidies, on the other hand, amounted to less than one per cent of the value of farm output.

"Who has to begin (to change)? Are you sure that we in the community are so far away?" he asked.

He said France accepted the need for change, and agreed that its agricultural policy led to overproduction and needed correction.

But France had a lot of unemployed people in the urban areas and did not want to increase those numbers in the rural areas to meet international obligations, he said.

The French system, he said, ensured that the 11 million French farmers, many of them small peasants, stayed on the land "to protect the environment, to entertain nature."

Talks With Japan's Nakayama

OW2904121691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1145 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Text] Sydney, April 29 KYODO—French Prime Minister Michel Rocard on Monday expressed support for Japan's call for eliminating the term "former enemy states" of World War II from the U.N. Charter, Japanese officials said Monday.

Rocard told Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama that he is basically in agreement for the elimination of the words.

The French prime minister, during a one-hour meeting with Nakayama in Wellington, said he would like to begin studies for making the revision of the charter.

Japan has asked for international support for its argument to delete the charter's references to World War II losers as "former enemy states."

The United States, Britain, China, and the Soviet Union have understood the Japanese request, Japanese officials said.